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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 1—Vol. VI. RANIKHET,—MAY 1900. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

ON Sunday, 1st ultimo, the Rev. John Cameron preached his farewell sermon to the battalion. It is nearly three years ago now since Mr. Cameron came to the Ninety-third. He joined us in the Tochi Valley in July 1897, and during the whole of that trying campaign when death and disease laid many a good man low he was at his post. The many mournful duties Mr. Cameron was called upon to perform during the early part of his sojourn with us are not likely, we feel sure, to fade quickly from his memory, neither is the battalion likely to allow the influence exercised by its *Padré* during the same period, and ever since, to be forgotten. The Rev. Mr. Cameron, being one of the Senior Chaplains of the Church of Scotland, goes under a new scheme of clerical promotion to Cawnpore, and is succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Thomson, who comes from Umballa, where he was attached to the 92nd Gordon Highlanders prior to their being sent to Natal.

* * * * *

Several interesting books, Johnston's Scottish Regimental Histories were presented to the Regimental Library by the Rev. Mr. Cameron on leaving the battalion; and also a copy of that well-known standard work "Old Scottish Regimental Colours" by Andrew Ross. All the books are splendidly and profusely illustrated, and it is impossible to adequately acknowledge the Rev. Mr. Cameron's parting gift.

* * * * *

April made a somewhat unpropitious beginning. Some heavy storms of hail and many hours of incessant rain quite suggested the *Chota Barsát*, and caused a sudden lowering in the temperature that after the genial warmth of the latter part of March was decidedly trying, especially to dwellers on "the Pinnacle," where the habitations seem never to have been designed with the intention of protecting the inmates from the rigours of such searching winds as Ranikhet has been recently subjected to.

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Ventilation is at times a decided advantage no doubt, but when a rude Boreas suddenly sets out from the regions of perpetual snow accompanied by some of his satellites the advantage of a hiatus between the roof and wall of one's dwelling does not seem so very apparent.

* * * * *

The musketry training of the battalion has made a most excellent commencement. "G" Company have finished their annual course, and the result of a somewhat new scheme has almost exceeded expectations. The average of the company for individual practices is 97, whilst in collective practices the percentage has risen to 59. Sergeant-drummer Walsh heads the company with an excellent score of 140, but the "Star" goes to Corporal Inglis, who got it with 138. In all there are forty-seven marksmen in the company, and not a third class shot out of one hundred and thirteen men exercised.

* * * * *

After an absence of two years or more at the Depôt Captain Tweedie has rejoined us. He arrived at Ranikhet on the 8th ultimo, and has taken over pay and command of his old Company, "H." We learn from Captain Tweedie that recruits more than supply even the present demand, the old castle when he left being crowded More particularly is this the case with recruits for the fourth battalion, which now refuses to take anything but a pure Paisley man, bred and born.

* * * * *

Major F. M. Aitken has passed the promotion for tactical fitness for command as laid down by Queen's Regulations.

* * * * *

Lieutenant O. C. Herbert has passed an examination as laid down in Appendix 55, Army Regulations, India, Vol. V; or, to be more explicit, has qualified as a Regimental Transport Officer in peace, and a Brigade ditto in time of war.

* * * * *

We have just been officially notified with all due solemnity that our pay is still to be paid to us at the rate of exchange of one shilling and four pence the rupee; also that the sovereign is a legal tender for fifteen rupees. Could it not have been broken more gently to us? This is *so* sudden!

* * * * *

One hundred rounds of special "Dum Dum" per man is to be fired into the stop butt during our Annual Musketry course this year. What a wicked waste this seems. They do seem to arrange this sort of thing so much better in Pretoria.

* * * * *

Colour-Sergeant Smith and Sergeants Hay and Arnott are again away, this time as instructors, to the School of Musketry, Pachmari. There are only four Sergeant Instructors at Pachmari, so the selection of three non-commissioned officers from the battalion to fill such important posts is highly flattering to us. It is a little compliment however that neither the battalion in general, nor these non-commissioned officers themselves in particular, greatly appreciate.

* * * * *

Major Stanley Paterson has been granted general leave of absence from the 18th April to the 18th June. The first fortnight of this leave Major Paterson spent in the direction of Ramnugger; he returned temporarily about the end of last month with a very fair sized leopard, measuring 7 feet 1½ inches, and also a *sarráo*, the first that any officer of the battalion has been able to obtain. Major Paterson is now away again, this time towards the snows.

* * * * *

"Captain A. Campbell, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, displayed great coolness throughout the day, and helped to dress the wounds of Captain Gordon under a hot fire.

"Lance-Corporal Ray, No. 6766, and *Private Phipps*, No. 3724, specially mentioned by Major-General Babington, as having helped him to rally men and taking men into the firing line. Private A. Bettington, Cape Mounted Rifles, attached to Cape Medical Corps, and *Private Johnson*, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, were instrumental in removing a wounded Highlander from the front under a heavy fire."

Members of "A" and "B" Companies must both have experienced a certain amount of pride in reading Lord Methuen's Magersfontein despatches, of which the above is an extract. Private Phipps only left the latter company after

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the return of the battalion from the Tochi campaign. Joining the Reserve he became a Metropolitan police constable, and there seems to be little doubt but his high sense of responsibility as a guardian of the peace prompted him to "run in" the men to the firing line on that fatal December day of last year. Private Johnson, whose regimental number is not given in the despatch, was once a signaller in "A" Company; he left the battalion in 1896.

* * * * *

Somewhat extensive brigade signalling is to be carried out in the Kumaon hills this summer, and Lieutenant P. D. McCandlish has been appointed brigade signalling officer. Ranikhet is now in direct communication with Chaubattia, and is to be, when a suitable intermediate post can be occupied, with Lansdowne nearly fifty miles away. Chaubattia has Almora well in range and also Naini Tal, the summer headquarters of the Bengal Command.

* * * * *

In response to Sir George Luck's appeal there was a performance in the Regimental Theatre on Monday, the 16th, by officers and ladies of the regiment and station. Considering the many calls made upon its charity lately, the battalion made a good response. The proceeds will be devoted to the Indian Famine Relief Fund.

* * * * *

This performance appears to have been but precursory to the resuscitation of the long dormant Regimental Dramatic Club. Many old favourites of Dagshai and Mian Mir are yet with us, and there is no doubt much talent hiding itself in the battalion. Captain Darroch's energetic management has already transformed the bare cheerless hall, taken over a few months ago, into a well lighted comfortably seated auditorium, and as funds increase many more improvements may be expected. A new drop scene, by our own staff artist, shows Stirling Castle from the King's Park in the blaze of a mid-summer sunset.

* * * * *

Following "G" Company, "C" have made some excellent shooting this year. Their individual attempts just reaches an average of 101; they have forty-eight marksmen, and no third class shots. Lance-Corporal A. Wight is "Company shot" with a score of 141.

* * * * *

Brigadier-General St. John Michell-Fancourt arrived at Ranikhet and assumed command of the station on the 18th. On this day he inspected the battalion in review order. We were drawn up soon after seven o'clock in two lines, the parade ground not allowing of any other formation. After inspecting the ranks the first line performed the manual exercise under Major Aitken, whilst the second were put through the firing exercise by the Adjutant, and then both lines did bayonet exercise by numbers. The General Officer Commanding afterwards visited the Institutes and the two most conveniently situated companies, "G" and "A."

* * * * *

Brevet-Colonel J. D. Fetherstonhaugh has, according to a recent *Gazette*, retired on retired pay.

* * * * *

On Thursday, 19th, there was a Shooting Match between officers and sergeants. The non-commissioned officers were "At Home" on the range. Despite this, and a somewhat strong and gusty wind there were several good scores and the average of the winning team reached 87.

* * * * *

As some recompense for the loss sustained by the previously alluded to transfers to the Indian Staff Corps, 2nd Lieutenants H. A. B. Reed, W. B. Baillie, G. P. Saunders, A. N. De V. Scott and G. R. Bird have been attached to the battalion for the customary twelve months' probation before joining a Native Regiment.

* * * * *

Our sergeants had a very pleasant outing at Chaubattia on the 25th and 26th. On the first day there was an eight-a-side shooting match between them and their hosts, the sergeants of the East Surrey Regiment. In the afternoon there was tennis and then a smoking concert to fill in the few remaining hours of the twenty-four. The following day there were the usual monthly

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Gymkhana Sports on the parade ground with Chaubattia "At Home." The sports included an open half-mile. In the evening the East Surrey sergeants had their fortnightly practice dance in the Gymnasium, which brought a very pleasant outing to a close.

* * * * *

Captain K. F. C. Marshall having completed his onerous duties at Shahjahanpur has once more returned to the bosom of the battalion. After the recent outbreak and riots at Cawnpore existence at Shahjahanpur in its present unprotected condition became, we hear, one of somewhat exhilarating anticipation.

Captain Marshall has taken over command of "D" Company.

* * * * *

"A" and "E" Companies have finished their field training. On Saturday, 28th, they were inspected at Upat by the Commanding Officer. "F" and "G" Companies are the next probable starters.

* * * * *

Since arriving at Ranikhet, 9-45 A. M. has been substituted for that of 8-30 as the hour for guard mounting.

* * * * *

Major C. Grant, who has been D. A. A. G. for Musketry, Bombay Command, since the latter part of 1896, has passed the tactical examination for promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel.

* * * * *

On the 30th ultimo there was another performance in the Theatre. "The Kuchpurwanipore Command" was the *piece de résistance* and drew a crowded house. The performance was repeated on the following evening.

* * * * *

The perusal of a recent battalion order referring to the receipt of anti-typhoid vaccine at the Station Hospital recalls pleasant memories of Dagshai, Professor Haffkine, and our green and salad days in this charming land of disappointments and regrets.

During the second year of our stay in Dagshai quite half the battalion were inoculated against enteric, and the morning parade following the interesting operation was a sight not to be soon forgotten. To a non-inoculated and therefore interested spectator it suggested a remarkably realistic field-day with an enormous number of casualties, and most of those fit had eventually to be requisitioned for conducting duty.

* * * * *

We mentioned in a recent number that a Tochi Memorial Brass had been placed in the West Kirk at Stirling, but that no account of any memorial service had reached us. A memorial service recently took place however, and it is with deep regret we learn that the delay in holding any such ceremony has been caused by an unfortunate bereavement in the family of Stirling's well-beloved and much respected pastor—a friend of so many of us now here in India, and once too, of those whose names have been graven upon the imperishable brass. On another page we re-print an account of the unveiling ceremony, which is sure to be read with more than ordinary interest.

* * * * *

April has been a most trying and changeable month. Considerable increases in the temperature had several times been suddenly followed by heavy thunderstorms with the usual accompaniment of rain or hail, usually the latter. It has then been fresh and pleasant for a few days or so until the heat's seemingly careless temerity has again brought retribution from the glistening wildernesses of the snows.

—:o:—

Medal Collecting.

—o—

"Collecting medals," says *Hibernia*, the organ of the Royal Hibernian School, Dublin, "is an expensive but interesting hobby. The best collection in existence is that of Colonel Hon. H. F. Eaton, late of the Grenadier Guards. He has three medals that were awarded to three brothers, Sergeant G. Hardy, Corporal Peter Hardy, and Private James Hardy, all of the 7th Fusiliers. The medals of the Corporal and Private had each no less than thirteen clasps for Martinique, Basaco, Albuera, Cuidad Roderigo, Badajos, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, St. Sebastian, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, and Toulouse. Sergeant Hardy had the same with the addition of Talavera. He was also present at Copenhagen in 1807. Was at New Orleans in 1814, and, returning with an officer on the staff, had the final distinction of scoring at Waterloo.

"Private James Talbot, of the 45th Regiment had a medal with fifteen clasps."

These medals are now very expensive. The present price in the open market for a Victoria Cross is £40. The highest price ever paid for one at an auction was £70.

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Shooting Match.

—o—

OFFICERS v. SERGEANTS.

Fired on the range at Ranikhet on the afternoon of Thursday, 19th April. A strong wind was blowing and the light, towards the close, was not good. There were some excellent scores, however, despite these disadvantages. Color-Sergeant Mitchell made a capital 98, whilst Captain Bell led the officers with 95.

OFFICERS.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Captain C. W. H. Bell ...	32	32	31	95
Lieutenant A. Elphinston ...	29	32	28	89
Major F. M. Aitken ...	25	29	29	83
Lieutenant H. M. Thomson ...	21	30	25	76
2nd Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean	26	28	21	75
Captain D. Darroch ...	29	20	23	72
Captain W. J. B. Tweedie ..	26	24	20	70
„ J. Campbell ...	25	19	18	62
„ F. L. Jackson ...	19	15	24	58
2nd Lieut. J. P. Villiers-Stuart	22	20	13	55
Total ...	254	249	232	735

SERGEANTS.

Col.-Sergt. R. Mitchell ...	34	34	30	98
Sergeant J. Sontar ...	31	32	32	95
„ J. Tyndall ..	29	32	29	90
„ C. Johnstone ...	27	33	29	89
„ J. Ewan ...	25	33	30	88
„ C. Clarke ...	30	29	27	86
„ F. Beavis ...	27	27	31	85
„ H. Crawford ...	29	26	27	82
Col.-Sergt. H. Ditcham ...	25	33	22	80
Sergt. Dmr. J. Walsh ...	25	30	24	79
Total ...	282	309	281	872

—:o:—

Letter to the Commanding Officer.

—o—

The following are a few interesting extracts from a letter recently received by Lieut.-Colonel Campbell from General Sir John Ewart, K. C. B., Colonel of the regiment. General Sir John Ewart writes :—

"My eldest son sent me an account of that sad reverse at Magersfontein. He says that they started on a pitch dark night about 1 A. M. in torrents of rain, and had to march over rough ground quite unknown to them and covered with large boulders and thick bushes, which of course greatly interfered with deployment. They marched by compass in mass of quarter distance columns, and halted when they were nearing the position of the enemy. Poor Wauchope then ordered the leading battalion (Black Watch) to deploy, desiring my son to tell the Commanding Officer of the next regiment (the Seaforths) to prolong the line to the left and the Commanding officer of the Argyll and Sutherland to prolong to the right, and that then he was to go to the rear regiment (H. L. I.) and to desire the Commanding Officer to form a second line and act as a support. My son says he had just reached the first when a terrific fire was suddenly opened by the Boers, who had made a trench much further to the front than was expected. General Wauchope, Lieutenant-Colonel Coode of the Black Watch, and a large number of officers and men were at once shot down, and on account of the darkness confusion at once ensued; my son getting a ball through his haversack and another through his riding breeches.

"Wauchope, I believe, had intended to let all his men lie down until the first glimmer of light and then to rush forward and storm the entrenchment, but the Dutchmen were expecting an assault as Lord Methuen had bombarded heavily the previous day, and were on the alert and too quick for Wauchope. The Highland Brigade seems to have again suffered heavy loss pursuing Cronje when Hector Macdonald got wounded in the leg and at the Modder river battle the 91st had previously lost a large number of killed and wounded.

* * * * *

"Yesterday I had a long letter from James Scott, late Color-Sergeant and now employed at the Paisley Academy. He tells me that he has volunteered for service at Fort George with a battalion formed from old soldiers who have agreed to serve again at home by request of the Queen.

* * * * *

"A new regiment of Irish Guards is about to be raised.

* * * * *

"You know I suppose that my eldest son above mentioned is a Major in the Cameron Highlanders. He was made a Brevet Lieut.-Colonel for the battle near Khartoum, and was mentioned in despatches by Lord Kitchener."

—:o:—

On Service in the Uganda Protectorate.*

BY CAPTAIN NEILL MALCOLM, D. S. O.

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I AM informed by those in the talking profession that there is no topic more popular upon a political platform at the present day than the expansion of the British empire and the increase of British trade, more especially in regard to Africa. Upon the one side of politics "our civilising mission" and "provision for posterity" form our theme; upon the other we declaim against "insane expenditure," "land hunger," and the rest.

By a merciful dispensation—afforded possibly by Providence, but certainly by the Queen's Regulations—I am restrained from wandering along so thorny a path; my contribution aiming solely at the further enlightenment of the many who form the listeners, and possibly of a few of those who speak, in the manner of our daily life in that portion of Africa in which I have spent the last two years, the Uganda Protectorate. Of course the more important events, which have formed the contents of more than one blue-book and of numerous paragraphs in the newspapers, are accessible to all; but these do not profess to acquaint our master, the tax-payer, with the story of those unconsidered trifles which fill up the intervals of fighting and fever, the two topics which claim almost the whole space devoted to Equatorial Africa in the afore-mentioned publications.

But it is in the matter of these very trifles that my personal friends, in the smoking room, or round the dinner-table, have shown the greatest interest, and, dare I say it, ignorance. Hence it is that I have been encouraged to write the

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following article, mere extracts from my veracious journal somewhat amplified, in the perhaps presumptuous hope that I may be able to enlist the sympathies of the readers of the 'Maga.'

With this object I have chosen for my subject the experiences of a few days at the beginning of March 1898, when it fell to my lot to command a small party of Indian troops and armed Swahili porters who were sent from Masindi by Lieutenant T. Scott, D. S. O., to relieve the Sudanese garrison at Fowera.

It will doubtless be remembered that in the autumn of 1897 an important expedition under Major J. R. L. MacDonald was brought to an abrupt stop, and the whole Uganda Protectorate thrown into confusion by the outbreak of three companies of Sudanese soldiers who had been sent to form his escort. Since then our endeavours had mainly been directed to isolating these three companies and cutting them off from all communication with their comrades, many of whom were known to be disaffected.

At last the mutineers had been driven across the Nile and out of the Protectorate by Captain E. Harrison, after the battle of Kabagambi on the 24th of February; but they were by no means done with, and there was considerable danger of their re-entering at Fowera, which fort may justly be termed the northern gate of Unyoro, Mruli being the southern one. To guard against this danger Lieutenant Scott sent me, on the 3rd of March, with one native officer and forty rifles from the Indian Contingent, to take over command of Fowera post, which had up to this moment been left in charge of a Sudanese native officer, in whose loyalty we had the utmost confidence, but who would have been unable to resist the mutineers had they arrived in force, however willing he might have been to do so.

I was accompanied by Lieutenant Dugmore of the Uganda Rifles, who had built the post we were going to relieve, and by Dr. R. U. Moffat, principal medical officer in Uganda, whose great experience of the country, combined with his knowledge of the natives and their languages, made him an invaluable companion in any difficulties that might arise. The column consisted of the above mentioned Europeans and Indians, twenty-five armed Swahili porters, who did not add much to our fighting power, but were useful for odd jobs, and about 120 unarmed porters of various nationalities, among them being a few Lendus, an interesting race whose home lies on the western shore of Lake Albert: they came to us originally when Lugard took over the Sudanese, whose slaves they had been, since when they have been in Government employ as station-sweepers, gardeners, porters, etc. The loads consisted for the most part of European kit, tents, Indian rations, and spare ammunition; we also had a Maxim gun. Attached to this small force were a Sudanese native officer and a few men of tried fidelity: they were to act as guides, and to pick up information about the mutineers *en route* so that we should not march into Fowera only to find it in the hands of the enemy, and then to have to beat a hasty retreat. Among them was an old *wakil-ombashi*, or lance-corporal, who had belonged to Sir Samuel Baker's picked body of the Forty Thieves, and a very fine specimen he was, a Denka of the very best type, standing well over six feet high.

We left Masindi at 3-30 P.M. on the 3rd of March, hoping to reach Fowera some time on the afternoon of the 5th. The distance was said to be about sixty miles, and as there was always a possibility of our coming across one or more of the bands of marauders known to be in the neighbourhood, it was by no means certain that we should arrive before the 6th; but as every delay on our part increased the chances of being anticipated by the mutineers, we were determined to strain every nerve to arrive early on the 5th. As will be shown, we were perfectly successful. I had only arrived at Masindi that morning after a short six-mile march, so had had a pretty busy morning, but as Scott made all arrangements for the Indians himself, I had some spare moments of which I took advantage to scribble a few lines home. The other two had been similarly occupied—Moffat with the Hospital, and Dugmore with Sudanese, Lendus, etc. At last we were off, and when once started on Safari—*i.e.*, the line of march—in Africa, one never knows where it may lead to, nor does one very much care. Our chief hopes were that we might be successful in our mission, of which there was not much doubt, and that we might drop in for a share of any excitement that was going.

Our road ran in a north-easterly direction across frequent swamps, all of which had been bridged with great labour by Dugmore during the previous year; he had also cut a straight broad road from Masindi to Fowera; which has completely superseded the old native track by which Sir Samuel Baker retired from Unyoro when attacked by Kobarega during his second journey into Equatorial Africa.

Of villages we saw nothing, but there was a fair sprinkling of banana plantations, which become fewer and fewer as one travels north from the Victoria Nyanza. In Usoga, on the north-east shore of the lake, and in Uganda, the banana tree supplies the people with everything they want except clothes and tobacco: food, drink, soap, oil, rope, and even flour, are made out of this most prolific and quick-growing of all plants. To obtain the fruit, the tree is cut down about

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three feet above the ground; but a very few months suffice for it to grow up again and to produce a fresh harvest—a very phœnix among trees as well as a "universal provider." But when one arrives in Unyoro it gradually gives way to the sweet potato, perhaps the easiest of all roots in the world to cultivate, as crop after crop can be grown until the ground is completely worn out; for after removing the tubers, the tops and runners have merely to be replaced in the soil and a fresh lot of potatoes will grow on. This method of agriculture is one eminently suited to the average African native, requiring little labour and no intelligence. But since they make no attempt to manure the soil or to alternate their crops, unlimited space is an absolute necessity: this they fortunately have at their disposal. Farther north in the Shuli and Madi country, the potato gives way to *dhurra* and other grain crops, the banana drops out altogether, semsem (or sesame) supplying the natives with oil, skins taking the place of cloth, whilst soap is no longer considered either a necessity or a luxury.

But to return to our march. We had intended to halt about 7-30 P.M., but unfortunately on arriving at our proposed camp we found that there was no water, so we were obliged to march on for another two hours. It was just the end of the dry season, which though an advantage to us in many ways, as the grass was down and the road clear, caused us a good deal of trouble and anxiety about our water supply—for the Swahili porter is a thirsty animal who loves to wet his whistle at least once every two hours, though it is wonderful what he can do at a pinch.

However, there was no help for it: on we went to the next swamp, where we were lucky in finding a capital camp on the site of a deserted potato-field not far from the water. It was now 9-30 P.M., so I wasted as little time as possible in laying out camp, posting sentries, and setting up the Maxim gun. The Indian Sepoys took the front and right faces of the camp, which was square in form; the armed Swahilis took the rear face and the Sudanese the left. Officers' tents and all unarmed porters, with a few Sudanese women and boys, were in the centre; the Maxim commanded the road. Each body of men piled their arms, as they came in, in rear of the position they occupied, and then settled themselves down to cook or sleep as they felt inclined.

Loads were deposited in front of the quarter-guard, which faced north-east, the direction in which we were marching. Poor Moffatt, who in his capacity of medical officer always marched with the rear-guard to look after any men who might fall sick on the road, was not in till 10-30 P.M., an hour after Dugmore and I had arrived. By that time the tents were up; our meagre supper, consisting of fried hunks of meat, dignified by the name of beefsteaks, washed down with cocoa, was soon swallowed; and after visiting the sentries we turned in without delay, as there was a long day before us.

The average Swahili cook has a delightfully simple *repertoire* of dishes, comprising *mineht* (*anglicè*, mince), beef-steaks, and cutlets; but as these can be made of any materials which may come to hand, there is always a variety about them. For instance, I remember hearing a man ask his *chef* what had become of the remains of a guinea-fowl, on which he was told that it had been made into beef-steaks! The border line between mince and cutlets is rather difficult to define, for both are chopped small with the cook's girdle knife on the top of a box which has been carried all day on a porter's head; the cutlet, however, usually has some substitute for bread-crumbs sprinkled about it, and is of closer texture than the mince, for whose manufacture the more gristly portions of the animal are chosen. All three dishes should be thoroughly disguised with Worcester sauce before being attacked, even after a long march.

Next morning we were up betimes, *reveillé* sounding at 4-30 A.M. All loads were packed and laid out on the road soon after 5 A.M., a small party of sepoys being posted in advance to see that none of the porters sneaked off ahead of the column; breakfast did not take many minutes, and by 5-20 we were again on the move.

(To be continued.)

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The Sergeants of the East Surrey Regiment "At Home."

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SHOOTING MATCH AND OTHER THINGS AT CHAUBATTIA.

THERE is almost always a certain amount of pleasure derivable from accepting hospitality, especially such hospitality as Chaubattia offered on the 25th April. Those members of the 93rd Sergeants' Mess who refrained from visiting there on that Wednesday have the writer's deepest commiseration. The cause of it all was an invitation from the "Warrant Officers, Staff Sergeants and Sergeants, 1st East Surrey Regiment," to their brethren of ours to a friendly trial of skill on the range, and on the tennis court. A smoking concert was to fill in the first evening, whilst on Thursday there were to be sports, and a dance in the gymnasium. The shooting match was to be eight-a-side, and an equal number were to do battle with the bat and sphere.

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The shooting was to take place in the morning so our eight left Ranikhet somewhat early, breakfast being ready for them on arrival at Chaubattia. The exigencies of the service would not admit of more than the shooting team themselves leaving Ranikhet at an early hour; and your humble correspondent's ability with the rifle not being of that superlative excellence he is denied the pleasure of being able to submit any details of the match. Despite his absence, however, it had a most satisfactory ending, though it was probably but part of our neighbour's deep laid scheme of hospitality that prevented them all from emulating the example of their top-scorer who only missed the possible by three points. A splendid performance when it is remembered that the Chaubattia range is not one of the best, and that there might have been considerably less wind blowing. Although we won by thirty-six points none of our team did anything to equal this performance; still Sergeant Soutar made a good ninety-four and the average of the eight nearly reached ninety.

Shooting over about two o'clock, came dinner; and then the tennis tournament commenced. In this four pairs of ours were matched against an equal number of their hosts. Each pair played three sets. By "sets" the tournament was a draw, but the East Surreys had a margin of games. Throughout the day it had been somewhat overcast, in the late after noon it was bitterly cold. Despite this, however, all our hostesses made a brave show, turning out in full force to witness the tennis. In this respect too, Ranikhet, let it be credited, was not so far behind. Many fair visitors from its milder clime dared Chaubattia's inclemency and the dangers and distance of the journey to nerve the right arms of the brave.

On the tennis ground the hospitality of the morning still continued. Whilst the tournament was in progress Mrs. Ford presided most graciously and becomingly at the tea table. Neither were the more potent assuagers of toil forgotten by the male members of the entertaining committee.

The smoking concert in the Mess Room concluded the more than pleasant first day. Sergeant-Major Ford presided here, and after a very lengthy programme, the special features of which were probably the general excellence of the songs and the advantage of a string band accompaniment, the health of the visitors was proposed by the Chairman and enthusiastically responded to. Bandmaster Davies replied neatly for the 93rd, and at the finish the 31st were toasted with Highland honours. Some of the visitors were compelled to return to Ranikhet, but in most cases they were not allowed to risk the dangers of a retrograde movement and perhaps miss the gaieties of the following—er,—past twelve by Jove! no next—no,—er—Thursday.

The sports were on the old parade ground commencing about three-thirty. Here the Sergeants had a tent and refreshment for weary trekkers from afar. One event, the "half mile," was open, and therefore most interested visitors. In this there were five entries from Ranikhet, in all about twelve runners starting. Private Peacock, "D" Company, led at a great pace from the scratch, but unfortunately ran outside the flags near the end of the first lap and having lost his lead fell out. McCall, "H" Company, however, immediately took his place with Comrie second and Mossman close behind. McCall, who has a splended stride and seems to be the coming man, eventually won in capital style and Comrie was not far behind. Other things were boxing, a series of neat gymnastic displays and a tug-of-war—the peculiar feature of which to us was, the very short rope used, necessitating the almost upright position of the pullers. The two days enjoyment concluded in the evening with the Sergeants' usual bi-monthly practice dance. This was in the old familiar "Gym." Two years' ago how different were the revels indulged therein by the weary and sad. To what base uses!—But no matter! Here on the night of Thursday, 26th, Ranikhet was again well represented. An unfortunate accident to one of our hostesses, who slipped and had the misfortune to break a small bone of her arm, was the only jar to otherwise the smoothest enjoyment. Dancing continued until midnight when the contemplation of the long return journey, and on the part of the sterner sex the thought of work on the morrow, made an adjournment almost imperative.

To look and shout for dandy-bearers is not the work of a few moments. Wrapped in musty cotton blankets they crouch and slumber round the dying embers of a few sticks or dry leaves, oblivious apparently to all care. The adjusting of cushions, and putting on of wraps has to be attended to: the midnight air of Chaubattia's 'most seven thousand feet strikes chillily after the warmth of the dance-room. Aroused at last there is an animated discussion among the coolies in the somewhat shrill *patois* peculiar to the hillmen, before the dandies are balanced upon their bony shoulders; then a slight oscillation, and they glide forward into the darkness, a darkness accentuated by the illuminations being left behind.

Along the familiar winding paths of Chaubattia and down the steep hill on to the dusty cart-road goes the line of dandies; some are occupied, but many are empty, for the owners prefer, braced by the exhilaration of the recent exercise, the pleasures of walking. A rustling, creaking, shadowy moving thing that broken swinging line

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looming through the vista of dust its progress agitates, but for the silvery ripple of the tongues of many precious burdens almost the personification of the golden silence of the proverb. Here and there a hurricane lamp flickers: to the pedestrian most annoyingly, but to the simple coolie the effectual dispeller of all the evil spirits of the encircling forest. Under the shadow of the stately eucalyptus, through avennes of feathery firs and blossoming chesnuts, between high banks and cuttings creeper clad, with gardens and bungalows perched above them; and then down again into the night chill of a sheltered valley, and so back to Ranikhet and rest.

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Tochi Campaign Memorial Service.

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In commemoration of those who had fallen in the Tochi Campaign during the years 1897 and 1898, a special memorial service was held in the West Parish Church, Stirling, on Sabbath forenoon. A brass tablet was erected in the Church on 19th August last year by the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 93rd, Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, in memory of their departed comrades, but various circumstances prevented a memorial service taking place. It was, however, the express desire of the officers and the military Chaplain (Rev. G. Mure Smith) to have one at a later period. Consequently on Sunday last the service took place, the fact being announced in the Orders at Stirling Castle on Friday by Colonel Trotter. There was a large congregation, including 87 soldiers from the Castle, under command of Captain Campbell. The subject was—"The Dead in the War"—Tochi Campaign, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Geo. Mure Smith. The brass tablet in memory of the fallen in the Tochi Campaign measures four feet six inches by two feet six inches. The following is a copy of the inscription,

ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND.

To the Memory of the following Warrant Officer, N.-C. Officers, and Men of the 2nd Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who died in the Tochi Valley during the Campaign of 1897-98:—

Sergt.-Major A. McDonald	Private W. Keattons.
Lance-Sergt. G. Inglis	,, S. Kelly
Corporal D. Shaw	,, J. McAllister
Lance-Corpl. T. Beasly	,, P. McCormack
,, A. Dipper	,, J. McDonald
,, J. Fitchett	,, J. McEwan
Piper J. McKenzie	,, D. McGee
Private J. Bennett	,, J. McKenzie
,, G. Broom	,, A. McMillan
,, H. Brown	,, J. Martin
,, G. Buchan	,, W. O'Neil
,, A. Cameron	,, J. Paterson
,, A. Crawford	,, W. Regan
,, A. Denny	,, G. Russell
,, N. Edgar	,, A. Scott
,, J. Fraser	,, R. Sinclair
,, C. Files	,, F. Smith
,, C. Gollan	,, P. Smith
,, G. Grey	,, C. Tipping
,, W. Hamilton	,, R. Wilson
,, G. Hunter	,, T. Young

Erected by the Officers, N.-C. Officers, and Men of the Regiment.

Ne Obliviscaris. Sans Peur.

From the "Stirling Observer."

He, He, He.

Air: "Little brown jug."

—:o:—

Just cock your ear and list a while,
I'll do my best to make you smile,
The usefulness I'll let you see,
Of ho ho, ha ha, he he he.
Ho ho, ha ha, he he he,
Is useful sometimes you'll agree,
From staff job up to K. C. B.,
Is often won by he he he.

If when your Sergeant cracks a joke,
The point 's not seen by stupid folk,
E'en if the point *you* may not see,
Don't let that stop your he he he.
Ho ho, ha ha, he he he,
"Good joke ho ho ho I see,
The best I've ever heard by G—,"
Ho ho, ha ha, he he he.

When your Captain sings a song,
Though you know there's something wrong,
Though in fifty flats he be,
Get ready with your he he he.
Ho ho, ha ha, he be he,
Yell the chorus full and free,
That song a great success may be,
If well backed up with he he he.

If 'mong the trees you chance to spy,
A Subby with a vengeful eye,
Make war upon a harmless fly,
That's *not* the time to sing or cry.
Ho ho, ha ha, he he he,
If that young Sub spots you or me,
When posted to his Companee,
He'll make us sweat for he he he.

If when your "School" 's a trifle flat,
And "Wullie" 's bagged your final "rat,"
A "Mick" says "'ere Jock 'ave a wet,"
Why *that's* the time to sing you bet.
Ho ho, ha ha, he he he,
"We loves you and you loves we,
Surrey Pult'—and Nine and Three,
D——d good pals" ho ho, he he.

If by good luck a stripe you get,
The good old hookum don't forget,
Instead of one you'll soon have three,
If well versed in your he he he.
Ho ho, ha ha, he he he,
"You've marked me up for five I see,
I'll take two and you take three,"
Ho ho, ha ha, he he he.

Had I another seven to do,
You bet I'd know a thing or two,
My honoured motto e'er would be,
Ho ho, ha ha, he he he.
Ho ho, ha ha, he he he,
If successful you would be,
Be ready when you get the "G"
With ho ho, ha ha, he he he.

CAEN MOR.

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Field-Marshal Lord Clyde.

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It is scarcely possible in so limited a space to give anything but an outline of the remarkable career of Field-Marshal Lord Clyde, better known as Sir Colin Campbell. Colin Macliver (which was his rightful name) was the penniless son of a Glasgow carpenter, and he rose to be a Field-Marshal and a peer of Great Britain.

At the age of fifteen years and a half, the Duke of York, who incorrectly entered his name as Campbell instead of Macliver, gave him a commission as Ensign (26th May, 1808), in the 9th Regiment. Three months later he was engaged at the battle of Vimiero. His place was with the rear company of the battalion, which was in column. The Captain, leading him by the flank, walked him up and down the front of the leading company, in full view of the French artillery, which had opened fire on our troops. This was to give him confidence. In after years he always said, "It was the greatest kindness that could have been shown me, and through life I have felt grateful for it." In 1809 he took part in the retreat on Corunna. He had to march with bare feet, the soles of his boots having been completely worn away. On board ship he was unable to remove them, and was obliged to steep them in hot water and have the leather cut away in stripes. His next service was with the Walcheren expedition, where 7,000 British troops died of malarial fever. In a short time he is again on active service on the Peninsula. At Barossa he was commended for his conduct in command of two flank companies of his regiment. In 1811 he was engaged in the relief of Tarragona, at Coin and Alhaurin and at the siege of Tarifa. This was followed by the passage of the Douro and in all the operations up to and including the battle of Vittoria.

He led the forlorn hope in the terrible storming of San Sebastian, which failed. Sir Wm. Napier, the historian, thus describes his conduct: "Major Frazer was killed on the flaming ruins. The Engineer, Machell, had been killed early, and the men bearing the ladders fell or were dispersed. It was in vain that the officers exerted themselves to rally their discomfited troops and refill the breach; it was in vain that Lieutenant Campbell, breaking through the tumultuous crowd with the survivors of his chosen detachment, mounted the ruins—twice he ascended, twice he was wounded, and all around him died."

Left badly wounded at San Sebastian, he crawled out of the hospital, and joined the army in time to command the light company at the action of Fuenterabia, and to be again wounded. For these services he was promoted Captain in the 60th Regiment. During the next seven years he served in the West Indies, part of the time as Brigade-Major. From his small pay as a Captain he allowed his father from £30 to £40 a year. Indeed, throughout his life he was the chief support of his father and sister. In 1835 he was appointed to the command of the 98th Regiment, and commanded it in the China War of 1842. In six months, at Hong Kong, the regiment lost through sickness 300 out of 810 men, without losing one man in action. This was a great grief to Colonel Campbell. In China he would not touch a fraction of loot, while others helped themselves most bountifully, so that his conscience would be clear. He went to India in 1846, and was at once appointed to the command of a brigade at Lahore. Soon after his arrival the revolt of Moolraj took place which he promptly suppressed. Well might the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Gough, write: "Thank God, we had Campbell there."

The first Sikh war provided him with further active service. At the battle fought at Ramnuggur he commanded the infantry. He played a prominent part in the battles of Sadoolapore and Chillianwala. In the latter he received a severe wound in the arm while leading the 61st Regiment against the enemy's guns. Writing to his sister, he says, in reference to Chillianwala, "I never entered an action with a lighter and happier heart, for I had you provided for." In this one short sentence we see the man. He was shocked by the unnecessary loss of life at Chillianwala. He expressed in the strongest terms to the Commander-in-Chief the necessity of making greater use of the artillery. In his diary he records: "I determined to employ this weapon against the enemy to the fullest extent whenever we should again come in contact with them; and I did so accordingly at the battle of Goojerat." After the Sikh campaign he held the Rawalpindi command. It was here that the first muttering of the great Mutiny occurred, which Campbell suppressed by firmness and tact without yielding a point. Troubles with the Afridi tribes were now brewing, and Sir Colin Campbell was transferred to Peshawar.

In consequence of a censure, which the Governor-General passed upon him, he resigned his command and returned to England. There is no doubt Sir Colin was right, and his action received the support of his old friend, Sir Charles Napier, the Commander-in-Chief in India.

When the Crimean War broke out he was appointed to the command of the Highland Brigade, and was promoted a Major-General after a service of 46 years. He led the Highlanders at the Alma and Balaklava. Every boy

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knows the story of the "thin red line," which made such a stir in the world at the time and popularised the Scots with their picturesque trappings. In conjunction with the French General, Vinoy, he held Balaklava up to December, 1854. His perfect knowledge of the French language stood him in good stead in these combined operations. Sir Colin succeeded the Duke of Cambridge in command of the 1st Division before Sebastopol. On the conclusion of the war he returned to England.

On the afternoon of the 11th July, 1857, he was sent for by the Secretary of State and told of the disappearance of 30,000 Sepoys from the ranks of the Bengal Army, and the general bad news from India, and was offered the chief command in that country. He accepted, and offered to start for India that same evening. He did start the next evening. It is impossible to give even a sketchy outline of his services in the Mutiny. Suffice it to say, that he successfully suppressed the Mutiny, fought battles, conducted sieges, and directed operations on a large scale. He shared the bivouac with the men, rather than sleep in quarters, worked in his shirt sleeves, and often, like the great Napoleon, transacted business in his bath. A soldier every inch of him—a thorough man-of-war. In a private letter the Queen almost begged of him "to run no unnecessary risk, as his life was too valuable to her and the country." He received the congratulations of every soldier of eminence who had served in the Mutiny. Sir James Outram wrote, "My greatest pride was to serve under you."

The strain of the Mutiny told upon him both mentally and physically, and he returned to England in 1860, much enfeebled in health. He lived with his sister in London, seeing a great deal of society, but finding a special pleasure in children. His benefactions were large, and in one year alone he assisted others to the extent of £7,000.

His chief friends were General Eyre and his family, and he died in the General's house at Chatham on the 14th August, 1863, in his 71st year. "Mind this, Eyre," he said, "I die in peace with all the world." Shortly before his death a bugle sounded on the barrack square, which the General's house overlooks. The old warrior sprang up and exclaimed, "I am ready!"

Field Marshal Lord Clyde was buried in Westminster-Abbey, where it is recorded "that he rose to the rank of Field-Marshal by his own deserts through fifty years of arduous service, and that he died lamented by the Queen, the army, and the people." What a record for the carpenter's son!—From "Hibernia."

What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT it's sorry tae part frae its Padré.

That it hopes tae meet him again in the near future.

That musketry this year seems tae be receivin' mair than the usual amount o' attention.

That results are sae far maist gratifyin'.

That there'll be greater improvements yet, nae doot.

That some funny ammunition hes been used lately.

That it maun hae a great reputation at the what-ye-may-ca'-it schule o' Musketry.

That the Sergaints can still shoot with'oot some o' their best shots.

That they hed a maist enjoyable ootin' at Chaubattia.

That the inclemency o' the first day wis amply compensated for.

That there is an ancient proverb relating tae comparisons.

That "H" Company scored at the Gymkhana.

That some buddy else must hae been hangin' back for something.

That "Scratch" belied his name.

That a wheelbarrow happens sometimes tae be a haud ane.

That it's lang syne since the Sergaints basked in the smiles o' a foreign potentate.

That this time a Sultan condescends.

That "C" Company did weel on the range.

That they micht hae din better in better weather!

That the Dum Dum bullet hes open'd up an interesting mathematical problem.

That the Regimental clock is becomin' delapidated.

That it hes lost ane o' its haunds.

That it's fechtin' men hae been dae'en weel enouch.

That a new form o' homeopathy is bein' introduced.

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In the Regimental Theatre.

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PROGRAMME.

Monday, April 16th.

1st PART.

1.	*Song*		Captain DARROCH.
2.	*Song* ...	"Caller Herrin"	Mrs. MACLEAN.
3.	*Encore* ...	... "My Jean"	...
4.	*Recitation*	... ...	... Mr. DUNNING.
5.	*Song*		Lieut. FERGUSON. E. SURREY REGT.
6.	*Song* ...	"The Lost Chord"	Mrs. PLOWDEN.
7.	*Song* ...	... ...	Major TAYLOR, D. A. A. G. FOR INST.

2ND PART.

COX AND BOX,

OR

"The Long Lost Brothers."

James John Cox "A Journeyman Hatter" Capt. DARROCH.
John James Box "A Journeyman Printer" Mr. DUNNING.
Sergt. Bouncer "Late of the Yeomanry" Mr. J. P. VILLERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN. STEWART,

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PROGRAMME.

April 30th, May 1st.

Reel by Pipers MACLEAN, HOEY and FINLAYSON, Lance-Corporal LYNCH.

Song ... ... "Oh! The Khaki."
Private CAIRNS.

Song ... ... "Mary."
Private CLARKE.

Encore ... "Bonnie Scotland, I adore thee."

Sword Dance ... ... Piper FINLAYSON.

10 Minutes' Interval.

"THE KUCHPURWANKEPORE COMMAND"
OR
"MRS. DEMPSEY MANAGED IT."

Lt.-Col. Chillipod, O.I.E. ... (late Madras Commissariat)
Mr. DUNNING.

Jack Trevor ... ... (An A. D. C. at Simla)
Lieutenant FERGUSON, EAST SURREY REGT.

Khudadad ... ... (Khansamah at Dâk Bungalow)
Captain DARROCH.
and

May ... (Daughter of Chillipod and in love with Jack).
Mrs. PLOWDEN.
Adbarustabad Dâk Bungalow.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

—:o:—

Boxing Competition at Chaubattia.

The above took place on the parade ground, Chaubattia, on Saturday, 28th ultimo, under the patronage of Lieutenant-Colonel Frodsham, and officers of the East Surrey Regiment. The competition, which was open to all competitors in the garrison, drew the largest number of exponents of the noble art ever sent into a like competition by our battalion. In the light-weight contests there were 14 entries (8 of whom were of ours). The first prize was secured by Bandsman Lightbody, while the second was obtained by Private Wilson, "H" Company, both of whom received an ovation from the audience on their well merited success.

In addition to the light-weight competition, two purses were given for two finish fights, *viz.*, a feather-weight and a middle-weight. The, combatants in the former were Lance-Corporal Ramsey, East Surrey Regiment, *vs.* Bandsman Hollands, 93rd. Hollands was no match for his experienced opponent, and stood no chance whatever, and he deemed it advisable to give up during the second round. The other fight was between Private Orr, 93rd, and Lance-Corporal Plant of the East Surrey Regiment. This was eagerly looked forward to, and was expected to last a considerable number of rounds, as both men had earned a fair reputation in their respective regiments. But it proved to be as short an encounter as the previous one. Orr in the second round was making it rather warm for Plant, he feinted for his opponent's head with his left, and landed a hard swinging right on the jaw, which lifted Plant clean off his feet, and sent him to the ground. Plant being unable to rise within the stipulated time, was counted out, and Orr declared the winner.

The following were contests with results:—

LIGHT-WEIGHT COMPETITION (10st. 4 lbs.)

—o—

Pte. Wilson, 93rd, vs. Pte. Taylor, Border Regiment.
Wilson won easily in the first round.

Pte. Handley, 3rd Hussars, vs. Pte. Preston, Border Regiment.
Preston secured the verdict in the first round.

Band. Lightbody, 93rd, vs. Pte. Watkins, East Surrey Regiment.
Lightbody easily outpointed his man in the first round, and knocked him out in the second.

Pte. Henry, 93rd, vs. Pte. Munro, 93rd.
Henry gave in during the third round.

Pte. Moriarity, 93rd, vs. Pte. Maslin, 93rd.
The three rounds were fully contested. Maslin secured the decision on points.

Pte. Halford, 93rd, vs. Pte. Hopkins, East Surrey Regiment.
At the end of the first round Hopkins retired to his corner, and failed to come up at the call of time.

Pte. McNiff, 93rd, vs. Pte. Hocard, Border Regiment.
McNiff secured the verdict in the 3rd round.

2ND BOUT.

Pte. Preston vs. Pte. Munro.
Munro was disqualified in the 2nd round.

Pte. Wilson vs. Pte. Maslin.
Wilson won easily in the second round.

Band. Lightbody, vs. Pte. McNiff.
McNiff from the begnining tried to rush his man, but Lightbody seemed to prefer these tactics and forced his opponent to retire in the second round.

Pte. Halford, a bye, sparred with Pte. Handley.

SEMI-FINALS.

Pte. Preston vs. *Pte. Wilson.*
This was a very hard fought bout. Both combatants were very evenly matched and eager, so it was somewhat difficult to tell the winner. Wilson got the decision on points.

Band. Lightbody vs. *Pte. Halford.*
Lightbody in this bout could not force the fighting as in the previous fight owing to an injury received to his right hand. He, however, managed to keep his opponent away by a jabbing left, and did this so well that he had the larger share of points, and so secured the verdict at the end of the 3rd round.

FINAL.

Band. Lightbody vs. *Pte. Wilson.*
Both men took it easy, and boxed in a very friendly manner, the combat proved an interesting exhibition of the noble art. At the end of the third round Lightbody was hailed as winner of the competition, with Pte. Wilson a good second.

Winners seconded by Pte. McGregor, and Goff, 93rd Highlanders.

PRIZES.

Light-weight Competition—
1st prize, Rs. 50, Bandsman Lightbody, 93rd.
2nd „ „ 20, Private Wilson, 93rd.
Middle-weight Contest—
1st prize, Rs. 50, Private Orr, 93rd.
Feather-weight Contest—
1st prize, Rs. 50, Lance-Corporal Ramsey, East Surrey Regiment.

E. M.

OVERHEARD ON THE RANGE.—Section commander—Now I'll give you a couple of rounds without any ammunition.

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Shooting Match and Tennis Tournament at Ghaubattia

—o—

93RD HIGHLANDERS.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergt. J. Soutar	31	32	31	94
,, W. Scott	26	32	33	91
,, C. Johnstone ...	31	27	33	91
,, J. Ewan	31	32	28	91
,, H. Crawford ...	29	31	30	90
Col.-Srgt. R. Mitchell ...	29	31	30	90
Sergt. R. Miller	28	27	29	84
,, C. Clarke ...	29	25	28	82
Total ...	234	237	242	713
Average ...	...	...	...	89

EAST SURREY REGIMENT.

Col.-Sergt. Barley ...	33	35	34	102
Sergt. Hammond ...	30	29	33	92
,, Jackson	29	25	32	86
,, Griffin	29	24	30	83
Sergt.-Major Ford ...	28	24	28	80
Col. Sergt. Rumsey ...	26	26	28	80
Sergt. Clarke ...	25	28	27	80
,, Henshaw	31	19	24	74
Total ...	231	210	236	677
Average ...	...	...	...	84

The Tennis eight were School Master Gover and Sergeant Scott.

Sergeants Durnan and Stubbs.

Armr.-Sergeant Holden and Sergeant Kerr.

Sergeants Clarke and Soutar.

—:o:—

The A. T. A.

DRAUGHT LEAGUE.

The number of entries being so few, for this competition it was deemed advisable to adopt the league form instead of the usual tournament method.

Names.	Compy.	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	Points.
Pte. McDonald ...	"E"	24	14	3	7	31
Bandmn. Burns...	"D"	24	13	3	8	29
Pte. Ferguson ...	"B"	24	13	2	9	28
,, Bowie ...	"E"	24	12	1	11	25
Bandmn. Chidley	"B"	24	12	0	12	24
Pte. Anderson ...	"E"	24	9	1	14	19
,, Graham ...	"E"	24	6	0	18	12
Totals ...		168	79	10	79	168

BILLIARD TOURNAMENT.

The first Billiard Tournament, organized by the A. T. A., took place on April 6th, with the following result:—

FIRST ROUND.

Pte. Sutherland, "F" (25) beat Pte. McMillan, "G" (30) 100 to 73
,, Wilson, "G" (15) beat Pte. Henry, "B" (10) 100 ,, 71
,, Woods, "F" (30) ,, ,, Mansfield "E" (Scratch) 100 ,, 94
,, Tawse, "D" (10) ,, ,, Silcock, "H" (15) 100 ,, 76
,, McCulloch, "G" (40) ,, ,, McLaughlin "F" (35) 100 ,, 57
,, Comrie, "H" (40) ,, ,, McIntyre, "B" (25) 100 ,, 93
Bandmn. Burns, "D" (10) ,, ,, Dale, "A" (Scratch) 100 ,, 78
Pte. Robson, "F" (10) ,, ,, Atherton "F" (15) 100 ,, 78
,, Cathcart, "H" (30) ,, ,, Muir, "F" (20) 100 ,, 66
Pte. Coutts, "G" 15 a bye.

SECOND ROUND.

Pte. Coutts, "G" (15) beat Pte. Cathcart, "H" (30) 100 to 52
Bandmn. Burns, "D" (10) ,, ,, Wilson, "G" (15) 100 ,, 57
Pte. McCulloch, "G" (40) ,, ,, Comrie, "H" (40) 100 ,, 85
,, Robson, "F" (10) ,, ,, Sutherland "F" (25) 100 ,, 40
Lce.-Cpl. Tawse "D" (10) ,, ,, Woods, "F" (20) 100 ,, 42

THIRD ROUND.

Bandmn. Burns, "D" (10) beat Pte. Coutts, "G" (15) ...100 to 93
Pte. McCulloch, "G" (40) ,, ,, Robson, "F" (10) ...160 ,, 90
Lance-Corporal Tawse a bye.

SEMI-FINAL ROUND.

Pte. McCulloch, "G" (40) beat Lce. Cpl. Tawse "D" (10) 100 to 95
Bandmn. Burns, a bye.

FINAL ROUND.

Bandmn. Burns, "D" (10) beat Pte. McCulloch, "G" (40) 200 to 17
Highest Break "20" obtained by Pte. Robson.

E. M.

Ninety-third Calendar for June 1900.

—o—

1 F. Battalion 1,175 strong, fully armed, and equipped for field service—Curragh, 1878.
2 S. Lieut.-Gen. William Sutherland, d. Colonel, 1862.
3 S. Nos. 3, 7 and 8 Companies under Lieut.-Col. Adrian Hope, emb. Plymouth on "*Belleisle*" for China, 1857. Lieut.-General Alex. Fisher Macintosh K. H. Colonel 1862.
M. Col. George Johnstone, Major-General 1814. Lieut.-General Sir Thos. Hislop, Bart., G. C. B. to 51st Foot 1822. Lieut.-Genl. Sir Hudson Lowe, K. C. B., Colonel 1822. Head-quarters and remainder Companies under Lieut.-Col. Leith Hay, reviewed at Gosport by Her Majesty. Lieut.-Genl. William Sutherland, Colonel, 1860.
5 Tu.
6 W.
7 Th.
8 F.
9 S. Re-embarked Yanikale for Balaclava, 1855.
10 S. Attack on the Political Officer's escort at Maizar, Waziristan, 1897.
11 M.
12 Tu.
13 W. Sailed with 1st Division to Varna, 1854.
14 Th. Portsmouth to Woking, 1853.
15 F. Disembarked Plymouth from Cape, 1814; strength 52 sergeants, 22 drummers, 944 men. Landed Varna, 1854. Aberdeen to Edinburgh Castle 1871.
16 S. Re-embarked Crimea on H. M. S. "*Sidon*" for England, 1856; end Crimea War. Head-quarters, embarked Portsmouth on *s.s.* "*Mauritius*" for China 1857.
17 S.
18 M. First assault on Sebastapol, 1855 (93rd in position on Woronzoff Rd.) Orders to mobilise for Tochi Expedition received, Nowshera, 1897.
19 Tu.
20 W.
21 Th. Thermometer registered 119½ in heavily shaded verandah of officers' quarters, Nowshera, 1896. Detachment from Cherat rejoined head-quarters for Tochi F. F., 1897.
22 F.
23 S.
24 S. Royal Review at Windsor before Her Majesty and the Shah of Persia, 1813.
25 M.
26 Tu. Inspection by General Ellis, Commanding Peshawar District, before proceeding on Field Service, 1897.
27 W. Left Nowshera, in two troop trains for Khushalgarh, 1897; strength 775. John Hasluck Campbell, Lieut.-Col., 1899.
28 Th. Detrained Khushalgarh, 1897; left same evening for Edwardesabad.
29 F.
30 S.

—:o:—

Football.

—o—

"B" Coy. *v.* "F" Coy., "B" 3 goals, "F" 1 goal.

A. T. A. *v.* Battalion. The latter won by a goal to *nil*.

"F" Coy. *v.* "A" Coy. "F" 2 goals "A" Coy. *nil*.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTION.

Extract from the London Gazette:—Captain A. Sutherland is seconded for service with the Egyptian Army from 14th February. Lieutenant R. B. Graham promoted Captain *vice* Sutherland, 14th February.

To be Sergeants.—No. 3775, Lance-Sergeant G. Forbes, "F" Company, dated 13th March, 1900, and No. 5530, Lance-Sergeant Stratton Gurney, "D" Company, dated 13th March 1900.

To be Corporals.—No. 5885, Lance-Corporal W. Morrison, "G" Company, dated 13th March 1900, and No. 5484 Lance-Corporal G. Ure, "B" Company, dated 23rd March 1900.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be paid Lance-Sergeant.—No. 4841, Corporal J. Ogg, "E" Company, dated 13th March 1900, and No. 2479, Lance-Sergeant D. Gordon, "A" Company, dated 13th March 1900.

To be paid Lance-Corporals.—No. 5387, Lance-Corporal G. Stewart, "A" Company, dated 13th March 1900; No. 5784, Lance-Corporal A. Gibson, "A" Company, dated 23rd March 1900.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporal.—No. 5874, Private A. Thomson, "G" Company.

To be Pay Sergeant of "E" Company.—No. 2808, Sergeant J. Soutar, "F" Company.

To be Drummer.—No. 5524, Private G. Edwards, "F" Company.

To be School Assistant.—No. 5885, Lance-Corporal W. Morrison, "G" Company.

To be Acting Drummer.—No. 4314, Private W. Hughes, "D" Company.

To be Assistant Instructor in Gymnastics.—No. 5908, Lance-Corporal M. Mackenzie, "G" Company.

ANTEDATED.

No. 2810, Corporal W. Willcocks, "D" Company, from 23rd March to 13th March 1900.

No. 2423, Lance-Corporal A. McInnes, "B" Company, from 23rd March to 13th March 1900.

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 2808, Sergt. J. Soutar,	"F"	Company to	"E"	Company.
„ 5530, „ S. Gurney,	"D"	„ to	"A"	„
„ 5484, Corporal G. Ure,	"B"	„ to	"F"	„
„ 5885, „ W. Morrison	"G"	„ to	"D"	„
„ 5524, Dmr. G. Edwards	"F"	„ to	"D"	„

TRANSFERS.

Private S. Wilson transferred from Royal Irish Regiment and posted to "C" Company.

EXTENSIONS.

To complete twelve years with the Colours:—

No. 4841, Corporal J. Ogg, "E" Company.
„ 5524, Drummer G. Edwards, "F" Company.
„ 4778 Lance-Corporal A. Wilson, "A" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. per diem:—

"B" Company.

No. 5052, Private R. Hunter.

"E" Company.

No. 4757, Private R. Cullen.

"F" Company.

No. 5000, Private J. Mackay.

"H" Company.

No. 4012, Pte. H. McDonald. | No. 5051, Pte. D. Donaldson.

Granted 1d. per diem:—

"C" Company.

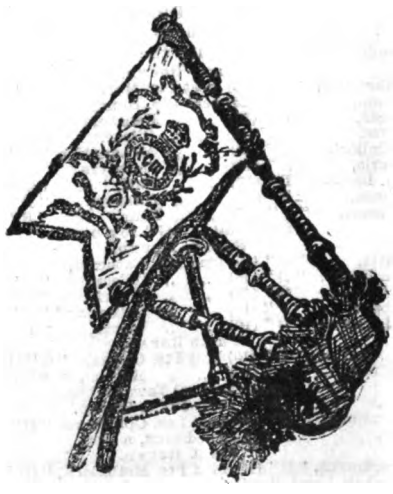
No. 4322, Private A. Dunn. | No. 5572, Pte. J. Wright.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted First Class Gymnasia Certificates, and qualified to act as Instructors in Gymnastics and Swordsmanship:—

No. 5493, Lance-Corporal J. Hudghton, "B" Company.
„ 5551, „ W. Montgomery, "E" „
„ 5908, „ M. Mackenzie, "G" „

Passed the Higher Standard Examination in Pushtu:—
No. 4978, Private A. Dale, "A" Company.



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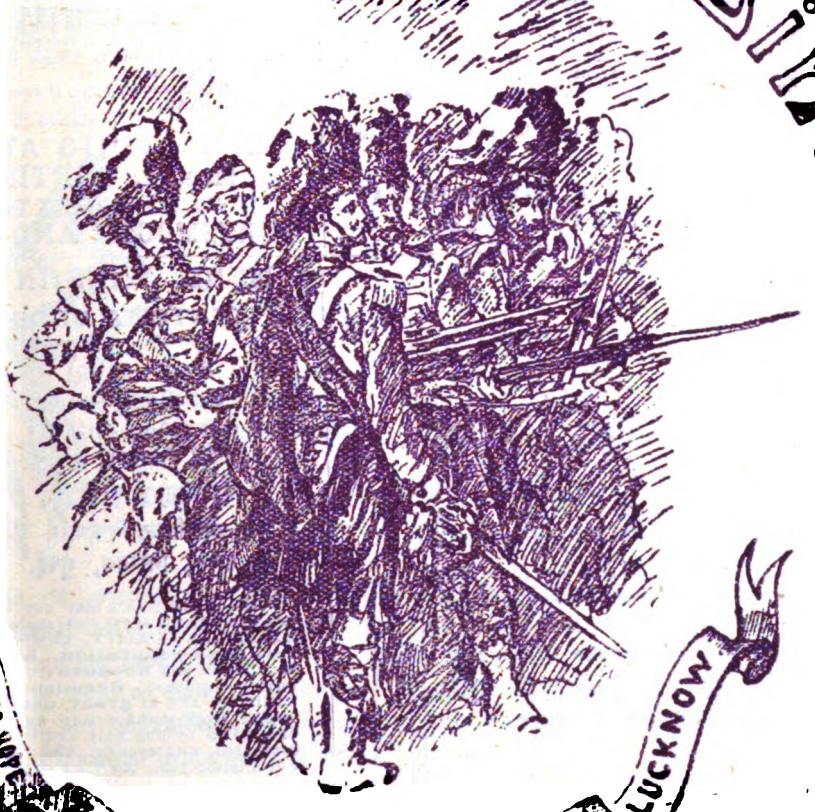
June 1907

The Thin Red Line.



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Vol. V,

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 11—Vol. VI. RANIKHET,—APRIL 1901. [Price, 2 Annas.

Editorial.

—o—

Britain's interests in China.

THE attention of the civilised world has been drawn recently to China, on account of the Boxer movement, which has necessitated the capture of Pekin and its port Tientsin, together with the line connecting the two with the seaboard. China is of particular interest to us, inasmuch as we regard it largely as a market for our goods; in fact China itself was opened up for commerce solely, in the first instance, by Great Britain, and her initiative has been followed by all the Great European Powers, each assuming different methods, and some a different rôle. Dealing first with our own methods, we find that our policy has been throughout the "open door," that is free trade rights to all nations, and it is this policy of international trade equality which we are now finding is unfavourable to us, inasmuch as Britain has, by allowing equal rights to all nations in the original treaty ports, discovered that the latter cannot be considered as solely in her sphere. Now some reference to the trade of China may be of use as pointing out how vital Britain's interests are; out of approximately £67,000,000 representing the trade of China per annum, Britain accounts for £40,000,000: this alone will show how important it is for us, a large manufacturing nation, to uphold and safeguard our interests in the Far East.

Britain's policy, always vacillating and wanting in firmness, has been commercial as opposed to political, and is nowhere more strikingly seen than in the following statistics, showing the area controlled by the various Powers and the amount of trade done in these particular spheres:—

	Area controlled.	Trade.
Russia] ...	362,000 sq. ms.	£ 2,500,000
Germany ...	53,000 „ „	„ 2,500,000
France	157,000 „ „	„ 7,500,000
United States ...	*Nil*	„ 17,500,000
Great Britain ...	200 „ „	„ 40,000,000

By this we see that Britain's policy, as also that of the United States, has been solely commercial.

Turning to Russian methods, it is inconceivable that Russia can be actuated by commercial motives, the amount of her trade considering the controlled area, etc., is almost insignificant; it is thus easy to conclude that sheer land-grabbing is her sole motive; her territories expand whilst her population shews no apparent increase; she is in no sense a manufacturing nation, so can have no object in acquiring more territory either for colonisation or as a market, and yet Russia is the Power to be reckoned with in the Far East.

In 1898 Germany suddenly put her foot down in Kiaochau, a fine harbour placed on a promontory some 200 miles from the entrance to the Gulf of Pechili. Her motive to all intents and purposes was to obtain reparation for the murder of some German missionaries, but actu-

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ally it was the result of a long thought out scheme for obtaining a footing in China, and up to then no favourable excuse offered itself.

At the same time that Germany acquired Kiaochau she coerced the Chinese Government into recognising the province of Shantung as her sphere, giving her direct control of railway enterprise and the working of mineral deposits, no "open door" there, and the whole transaction a piece of pure brigandage.

Germany unquestionably is, and has been, alive to the partition of the Great Chinese Empire, and awaking as she has done but recently to a life of great commercial activity, she has combined politics and commerce, and acquired for herself a footing, in fact a basis, against the generally anticipated partition.

The German nation as a whole regarded it in a favourable light and looked on it as some recompense for the failure of the African Colonies.

Britain has, for some considerable time, regarded the Yangtse Valley as her special sphere, and up to recently quite justifiably so, as the treaty ports on the Yangtse were all opened by Great Britain and the trade of the whole valley through Hankow, Shanghai and Hong-Kong lay in British hands. Here it is now that the great difficulty faces us; quite recently Great Britain gave way to Russia on the question of a railway running north from the Yangtse Valley, designed unquestionably by the Russian with the object of diverting British trade from Hankow and giving Russia a footing on what we had begun to consider as our particular sphere. Previously France with the same object had built a railway into the Province of Yunnan, thus making an outlet *vid* Tonquin for the trade of the Southern Yangtse States; this has been, however, no great success, as French colonisation has so far been productive of no good results in any quarter of the globe. French officialdom, with its love of show and aggrandisement, requires a by no means small outlay, and this combined with their military system has prevented any great success attending their attempts at colonisation.

What really is required is some decisive policy. China is undoubtedly a fine market for British goods, but we must eventually be ousted unless we put our foot down and have agreements with the other Great Powers as to what constitute spheres of influence, and as such are free from outside aggression. It is simply due to our indecisive policy, coupled with the "open door," that we owe our position in China to-day: we have spent much in blood and money, and this is no time for sitting down whilst others divide the spoil. The Celestial in common with all Orientals does not judge by what one is but what one does, and he is consequently coming to regard Britain's power as waning in the Far East.

Better far cease to have interest in Chinese affairs than pursue a policy which is undecided in character, which has failed lamentably when opposed to Muscovite intrigue, and which can under existing circumstances guarantee us nothing.

—o:—

SKIRLS

IN spite of all the rumours to the contrary, Ranikhet is again our summer station. Even at the last moment almost some people were sanguine enough to say that the Kumaon hills would not behold us this year. However, all doubts on the subject were finally set at rest when on the 21st February the marching camp of the battalion was pitched on the site of what had been the football ground.

On the same date the Left-half Battalion shifted over to the new camp and the work of striking the larger camp was begun. Under the adroit hands of numerous fatigue parties one-half of the large expanse of canvas had disappeared before mid-day when the work for the day ceased.

The following day saw the Right-half Battalion settled down in the marching camp, and the remainder of the E. P. tents struck and ready for despatching to the Arsenal at Allahabad. The work of packing our standing camp equipment was performed on the 22nd February, a large array of somewhat broken down looking transport being in requisition for the purpose of conveying it to the station, where a strong fatigue party was assembled who soon had everything loaded into the train and ready for despatch to its destination.

* * * * *

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The battalion moved to the hills in two parties, Head-quarters under, Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell consisted of "A," "B," "E" and "H" Companies and the Band. The second party under Major Aitken was composed of "C," "D," "F" and "G" Companies with the Pipes and Drums.

"B" Company formed an advanced party and entrained for Kathgodam on the night of the 23rd. The Head-quarters party followed on the morning of the 24th, and on the 25th the second party departed from Bareilly.

The thanks of the Sergeants are due to the members of the Sergeants' Mess of the Border Regiment for their hospitality in providing breakfast for them on the morning of departure, the Sergeants of both parties being equally favoured.

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The march to the hills has been described so often that a detailed account is perhaps unnecessary, though a correspondent in another column has endeavoured to make something new out of it. The road, to most members of the battalion, is probably as familiar as, well let us say, Paisley or Stirling. Marching was rendered easy by the excellent condition of the roads, happily, almost free from dust. The usual half-way house was dispensed with this year. The weather being so cool, early marching was not indulged in, a start never being made before eight o'clock in the morning, and even then the camp was always reached long before midday.

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The "Census" of India being ordered to take place on the 1st March, the enumeration of the Head-quarter party was taken at Rattigat, and of the second party at Bhowali, both parties halting an additional twenty-four hours at these places for the purpose. The long halt was probably beneficial as the pleasures of "life on the march" were somewhat marred by the very heavy showers of hail and rain that fell on the afternoon and evening of the 28th February. Fortunately "Census day" was a fine one, so advantage was taken of "old Sol's" kindness to restore one's belongings to their original state of dryness and cleanliness.

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Ranikhet was reached on the 3rd March by the first party, and by the time the second party marched in on the 4th the first comers appeared to have settled down very comfortably and, needless to say perhaps, the last comers were not very long in following their example.

The distribution of the companies varies somewhat from last year. "A" and "G" now occupy the bungalows on the road to the hospital formerly possessed by "D" and "H" Companies, while the last-named have taken over the more convenient barracks half-way up the hill near the institutes. The Band, "B" and "C" Companies retain their old bungalows, "F" and "E" have changed places, the former taking over the well-known double-decker, while the latter occupy two of the pinnacle bungalows.

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About a hundred convalescent details from various corps are attached to the battalion and occupy the barracks above the Suddar Bazar. Numberless married families also claim our protecting care, and are quartered in the bungalows above the square, locally known as the half-moon barracks.

The command of the convalescent section, which, by the way, is no sinecure, has devolved on 2nd-Lieutenant Langton.

* * * * *

Reveillé now sounds at 6 A.M. and retreat at 6 p.m. The pipes and drums play on the upper square at reveillé, retreat, and tattoo on Tuesdays and Fridays. So much display and music is entirely lost however, as few, except perhaps those in search of a cure for liver complaint, would care for a journey to the pinnacle of Kumpur, even though the reward were a glimpse of this picturesque spectacle.

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Ranikhet was treated to a snowstorm on the morning of the 7th March, a most unique experience in this country, at any rate to those who have never "soldiered" on the hills during what is called the cold season. The storm lasted for several hours, the snow being varied at intervals by hail and rain. For a few hours the whole country wore a most wintry and desolate appearance, the pine and fir trees, with

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which Ranikhet is so much favoured, heightening the dreariness of the scene. In the afternoon the sun came out, and soon all traces of the storm had disappeared.

* * * * *

Two or three days were allowed as usual for performing the innumerable little fatigues that pertain to a change of station, and then the work for the season commenced by a manœuvre parade on the 8th March. To "A" and "G" Companies, under Major Aitken, was allotted the task of obstructing the passage of the remaining six companies who were trying to make their way in the direction of Upat. A running fight was maintained along the road from the Standing Camp to within half a mile of the race-course, and then the operations terminated.

Similar "field days" have been of weekly occurrence since then, the companies exercising at field training assuming the rôle of "A" force or "Blue" force, or whatever other names the "Special" or "General Idea" may bring forth.

* * * * *

Our first visit to the Standing Camp this year in the capacity of "diggers of the soil" took place on Friday, 15th March, and since then a familiarity with the pick and shovel has been acquired by two weekly visits thereto.

Since the departure of the battalion from Ranikhet last year, gangs of coolies, in addition to the daily working parties furnished by the winter section, have been employed in the making of the new square, and a great deal of work has been done. A new feature this year is the apportionment of the work into tasks for the various units. The battalion has two places or tasks to work at, and the Cameronians and Standing Camp, one each. These tasks are sub-divided again into four smaller tasks to which twenty-five men are assigned. The strength of a working party consists of three officers and two hundred non-commissioned officers and men.

* * * * *

The report on the recent examination of candidates for first class certificates of education has been published, ten candidates in consequence gaining their certificates, while six have passed in Part I, and one, less fortunate, has to be re-examined in one subject only. The great success of his class must be gratifying to School Master Gover, to whose unwearying energy most of it is due. Our congratulations to him and his pupils.

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A telegram from the D. A. A. G., Bengal, gives the information that—"Restriction on grant of furlough to Regimental Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers is withdrawn on the understanding that public passage is available, *or that applicants are prepared to pay their own way.*" Is this another official joke? A shilling a day plus messing allowance will go a very long way in paying one's passage to Scotland on board a P. and O!

Sergeant Kerr, who has been in indifferent health lately, has been lucky enough to obtain a furlough home, and left towards the end of the month for Bombay. We believe, however, that the Government has been pleased to grant him a passage on board a transport.

* * * * *

At an examination held at Bareilly during the month of February, Captains D. Darroch, K. F. C. Marshall and W. J. B. Tweedie passed in subjects (A) and (C) for promotion to Major.

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Captain McCandlish and Lieutenants Elphinston, Harvey, Thomson and Kennedy are away home on leave. The Revd. Mr. Thomson, our esteemed Chaplain, has also been successful in obtaining a few months' well-needed rest, but the state of his health will not allow him to travel much before the end of April. During his absence the Revd. Mr. Fraser, Chaplain to the Royal Scots Fusiliers, will officiate.

Captain Campbell is another absentee, two months being his share of leave. The duties of Adjutant will be performed in his absence by Lieutenant Hyslop.

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2nd-Lieutenant Shakespeare, Unattached List, joined from home on the 12th March, and is attached to "G" Company for duty.

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A party of recruits, mostly officers, have been the first to test the range this year. A party of casuals also commenced about the same time, both parties being superintended by Lieutenant Hyslop.

"B" Company has been struck off duty to commence the annual gymnastic course.

Field training commenced somewhat earlier this year than formerly. "A" and "C" Companies are the first to try their khud-hopping abilities. It was the intention to have worked in the musketry with the field training course this season, but that is impossible for the present, an order from head-quarters forbidding the commencement of the 1901-02 musketry course until further orders are received on the subject.

* * * * *

At a meeting of Lodge "Rohilla Star" held at Bareilly before leaving for the hills, Brother Color-Sergeant Bush was elected Worshipful Master, and was installed according to ancient custom at a meeting held some time later. The death of our beloved Queen-Empress precluded the possibility of the usual festivities, due on such an auspicious occasion, being indulged in, so the evening was quietly spent in the delivery of toasts and speeches.

* * * * *

In anticipation of a contingent of Boer prisoners being located at Lohu Ghat the battalion has been called upon to furnish a small detachment to act as warders. It is doubtful whether the services of this detachment will be required, as it has not yet been finally settled that the Boers will come this way. The station of Lohu Ghat was abandoned many years ago as a sanatorium for British troops.

* * * * *

Several batches of invalids and time-expired men have left the Battalion lately, the latter consisting chiefly of old soldiers with thirteen or more years' service. Among the many old faces we now miss, Color-Sergeants Bush and Mitchell are perhaps the best known, both having served in the NINETY-THIRD without a break for the last sixteen years. Color-Sergeant Bush has gone to fill a vacancy on the permanent staff of the 1st Dumbartonshire Rifle Volunteers, and Color-Sergeant Mitchell, though invalided, will, we hope, soon be filling a similar appointment.

* * * * *

The competition for "Best shot" of the battalion among the Corporals and Privates took place on the range on Thursday, 28th March. Each company had two representatives, and the conditions were :—Seven rounds kneeling at 500 yards and seven lying at 800 yards, one round at each distance being allowed to sight the rifles. The scoring was moderate, Corporal Inglis, "G" Company, taking first place with 45 points out of a possible of 56. Three competitors tied for second place with the score of 43 and were given an extra shot apiece to decide the difficulty. Lance-Corporal Stewart, "A" Company (last year's winner), secured the second place and Bandsman Burns and Private Warnock, "F" Company, the third and fourth places, respectively.

* * * * *

Since our last issue Lieutenant Gillatt (severely wounded at Elandslaagte when attached to the Gordon Highlanders) has rejoined us, and we are glad to see he has made such a good recovery after hearing such unfavourable accounts of his progress. Lieutenant Akers Douglas also wounded at Paardeberg has recently joined his original battalion after a roughing in South Africa, whilst with the sister battalion, the Ninety-first. Since the cream of the fighting is over and the wearisome hunting down of De Wet and Co. is occupying the troops at the seat of war, a rest from the excitements and hardships incidental to such a trying campaign will restore them doubtless sufficiently to enjoy a more thorough experience of this Garden of Eden.

We must not lose this opportunity of heartily congratulating Mr. Gillatt on his marriage, and trust that Mrs. Gillatt's experiences of Indian life may be of the best that every good wish could devise.

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Lieutenant Gillatt has taken over command and pay of "A," his old Company, from Lieutenant McPherson, and Lieutenant Akers Douglas has been posted to "C" Company.

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Captain C. W. Losack, late NINETY-THIRD Highlanders, has kindly presented to the Sergeants' Mess a handsome cigar and cigarette box. A splendid specimen it is of the exquisite carved work so seldom met with outside of Cashmere. Inside of the box is a silver plate bearing the following inscription :—'A gift from Captain C. W. Losack, late NINETY-THIRD, to the Sergeants' Mess of his old Regiment.' The thanks of the Sergeants are most heartily tendered to Captain Losack for so valuable an addition to their collection of mementos.

* * * * *

The details of the Royal Scots, King's Own Scottish Borderers, and Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders have been amalgamated, and blossomed out recently under the title of the 8th Provisional Battalion. The head-quarters are at Victoria Barracks, Belfast.

* * * * *

When last heard of the Ninety-first were rusticating in or about Rustenburg, a township 50 miles or so west of Pretoria according to the map. Life in this place seemed almost intolerable, as, owing to the frequency with which convoys went astray, even the barest necessities of life could scarcely be obtained. One report, the absolute accuracy of which we cannot vouch for, has it that on New Year's Day the menu consisted of but one biscuit between every four men—truly a sumptuous repast. At any rate it will probably be a long remembered New Year's Dinner;—remembered when others of larger dimensions are forgotten. We should like to hear something more of our comrades in South Africa, and any contributions regarding their doings will be gratefully accepted.

Military Lecture.

—o—

DELIVERED BY CAPTAIN R. B. GRAHAM AT BAREILLY.

I HAVE been called upon to say a few words this evening on the battle of Magersfontein, and I think it will be better to begin by relating the events which led up to it.

When Lord Methuen had firmly established his position on the Modder and the Riet, the last streams that interposed between the British column and Kimberley, he halted his weary troops and set to work to make good the disorganisation which invariably followed upon the exertions of the preceding days. His force had now fought three actions in a week—Belmont, Graspan, or Enslin and Modder River, and had lost rather more than one-tenth of its numbers. His small force of cavalry (9th Lancers) had been severely overstrained, his infantry exhausted and his supplies were inadequate. Colonel Northcott, one of his D. A. A. G.'s, had been killed at the Modder, Lord Methuen himself was wounded and two Colonels of the Guards had fallen, one killed (Colonel Stopford, 2nd Coldstreams), the other wounded.

Had there been evidence that the enemy were seriously demoralized, Lord Methuen would undoubtedly have pushed on to Kimberley at once, as it was only 20 miles distant. His information was, however, that the Boers had fallen back on Spyfontein full of fight, and that they had been reinforced by a commando from Mafeking

Consequently Lord Methuen decided to wait for reinforcements, and gave his men a well deserved rest.

For the next twelve days, therefore, he rested at Modder River, a railway bridge was thrown across the stream in the place of the one broken by the Boers and supplies hurried up.

On December 7th about 1,000 Boers with 2 Krupp guns attacked the post at Enslin, held by 200 men of the Northamptons under Captain Godley. They were, however, beaten off after six hours fighting by the aid of the 62nd Field Battery Royal Artillery, which had been despatched from Modder River.

The arrival of the Canadians at Belmont permitted the release of the 1st Gordons (75th), who were sent up to strengthen Lord Methuen, so that by December 9th his force had been strengthened by four Highland regiments (71st, 73rd, 75th and 78th), the 91st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders having been present at the Modder River fight, the 65th Howitzer Battery, "G" Battery, R. H. A., a 4·7 gun and the 12th Lancers. His infantry now numbered 10,000 men; he had two cavalry regiments besides Remington's Guides and 31 guns, and so he determined to force his way to Kimberley at once.

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Although the General had been 11 days on the Modder, he had no exact knowledge of the Boer positions. The reconnaisance work had been very difficult on account of the barbed wire. All that was certain was that Cronje had strongly fortified the Spyfontein ridges stretching east and west of the railway, as well as a ridge with the south-east end of the main heights to the river. This ridge was five miles long and thickly covered with dense shrub. At its north-east extremity it abutted against the steep kopjes of Magersfontein, about three miles east of the railway, and nearly the same distance from Scheltz Kop, where Cronje's main position was supposed to be. The Magersfontein hill was about 150 feet high, and bare except for boulders. Between it and Scheltz Kop the ridge sank so that these two points were the key of the whole position. Lord Methuen judged, no doubt, that a frontal attack on the central heights of Spyfontein would fail, so he had to try and find a way round.

He considered that he had three alternatives only:—

1st—To go round by Jacobsdal.

2nd—To force the ridge and so turn the northern ridge.

3rd—To seize the Magersfontein hill itself, and thence make a final flanking attack on Scheltz Kop.

He rejected the first and second—and chose the third alternative.

On Saturday, December 9th, 1899, the 4·7 naval gun fired some experimental rounds, ten with lyddite, which was now used for the first time in the campaign. The shells threw up huge clouds of dust and every one seemed delighted. On the 10th December the Gordons (75th) arrived, and the General decided to attack the next day.

On Sunday, December 10th, about mid-day, we received orders to parade at 3 P.M. The column consisted of the four Highland regiments, 9th Lancers and every available gun. The Gordons were not included in the Highland Brigade as they had only just arrived, and they did not advance till the following morning. The 73rd (Black Watch) were in front, followed in order by the 78th, 91st and 71st.

Shortly after we started it began to rain, and continued to do so for 12 hours; one blanket was carried between two men, and officers pleased themselves as to what they carried; most fellows only took a water-proof cape.

All the guns moved forward with great pomp, including the 4·7 gun with its team of 32 oxen, and started shelling the Magersfontein ridge with great accuracy at various ranges,—the 4·7 gun near the railway at 8,000 yards, the howitzers at about 5,000 and the lighter guns at 3,000. The effect of the lyddite was appalling, but it is certain that the Boers didn't wait on the kopjes for the whole of the bombardment, and of course the men in the trenches, 200 yards to the front of the kopjes, escaped altogether.

At 6·45 P.M., our fire ceased altogether, and the guns fell back. The Highland Brigade bivouacked in the rain about 2½ to 3 miles from the Magersfontein hill. The Guards came up on our right rear at 10 P.M., and the 9th Brigade remained in camp. The 73rd now extended and fired a few shots.

At 12-30 the Highland Brigade formed up in mass of quarter columns in the order stated. Before starting two rifles were accidentally discharged in charging magazines. This in itself was quite enough to alarm the Boers.

The only order we received was that we were to occupy the Magersfontein hill, no word being said about the trenches, of whose existence Lord Methuen was apparently quite ignorant. The column was guided by Major Benson, R. A, with a compass in each hand, and the left guides held a rope in order to preserve the formation. The night was pitch dark and pouring with rain, the only time one could see a foot in front of one's face was during a flash of lightning. The men were ordered to hold on to one another, but over broken ground it was found impossible, and the slightest change of direction of course threw the whole of the flank into utter confusion—men marching straight on, not following the change of direction, and only discovering their mistake when they found themselves alone.

Then of course the only thing to do was to listen and, on hearing the tramp of feet perhaps 200 yards away, make a bolt to rejoin one's company. In this way the regiments got mixed up together. The distance about 3 miles could of course easily have been traversed in an hour by day, but Lord Methuen allowed 3 hours, dawn being at 3-25 a.m. Thus the Highland Brigade plodded along, little knowing what was in store for it. We had crossed one line of wire which was lying all over the ground when we (the 91st) reached it, and I believe the order to extend had already been given by our Brigadier, when a light was shewn on the end kopje and a most fearful fire began from the front and right, which threw the force into still greater confusion than it had been before.

The regiments were mixed up and officers were unable to get their own men together at all. Many of the men lay down at once, others retired about 50 yards, while some endeavoured to charge. Hundreds of men went down at the first discharge; of course, a few got through, but very few got back.

There was a wire fence all along the front of the Boer position, which stopped the various rushes. It was simply a wire railing consisting of five rows of wire. At the part where a small party including myself got through, it certainly was not barbed, but I believe it was in most places.

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The danger from the Boer fire was almost equalled by that of our own men, as no one knew the range in the early morning light and many of the shots were going low, and consequently our men were being constantly hit in the back.

The struggle was unequal, and eventually the Highland Brigade had to give way owing to its being enfiladed from its left flank. On the right flank this enfilade fire was prevented by the Guards' Brigade and five companies of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, who held the ford over the river on our extreme right. They were ably assisted by two dismounted squadrons of the 12th Lancers.

About midday the Boers seemed to be getting reinforcements from Spyfontein and Lord Methuen advanced the Gordons (75th) to support the Highland Brigade: they lost but few men as compared with the other Highland regiments, their total loss being only thirty-nine, out of which five were officers. They came up on the left of the 78th and Black Watch. Shortly afterwards, that is to say, about 2 P. M., the Boer fire increased on our right and the 78th were swung round to meet it, thus exposing the right of the Gordons, and Colonel Downman, believing his position to be untenable, ordered his men to fall back. This movement affected the rest of the Brigade, and it lost heavily in the retirement, Colonel Downman himself being killed.

As the evening drew near it became evident that no attack could succeed, and so there was no object in remaining in front of the enemy's position. At about 5-30 P. M., the Boer guns, hitherto silent, started shelling the retiring infantry and continued to do so till 7-15, when darkness put an end to one of the most disastrous battles of the war.

The Guards covered the retirement and remained lying out all night, but the enemy made no attempt to press. By midday next day the whole force was back in camp with the exception of the wounded, many of whom had to lie 36 hours on the field without assistance of any sort.

The losses of the Highland Brigade amounted to over 750, including over fifty officers, of which the Black Watch alone lost 19 officers and over 300 men killed and wounded. It is impossible to estimate the Boer losses.

Perhaps the most striking lesson of the fight is the extreme bloodiness of modern warfare under some conditions and its bloodlessness under others. There, out of a total of about 1,000 casualties, some 700 were incurred in about 5 minutes and the remaining 300 only after a whole day of shell, machine gun and rifle fire.

Some of the lessons to be drawn from this battle:—

Boer trenches:—First and foremost comes the subject of trenches.

In the plain, 200 yards from the base of the hill, the Boers dug their deep trenches.

No one in the Highland Brigade knew of their extent or even of their existence. They ran for miles, following the *contour* of the hills, and joined on the one side the defences of Scheltz Kop and on the other those of the under-feature between Magersfontein and the Modder River.

By digging them at the foot of the kopjes, the Boers gained three advantages.—

1st.—They went unnoticed by our gunners, who fired at the ridges.

2nd—They were invisible to approaching infantry.

3rd—They gave the attackers no chance of shelter among the steep rocky sides of the kopjes during the final charge.

By occupying the crests, the Boers disclosed their position, by entrenching in the plains they concealed it.

The Boers had already learnt that shell fire is less dangerous in a trench than among rocks; also that it is very difficult to avoid over shooting the almost invisible lines of trenches and hitting the kopje behind.

Their trenches were deep and well-concealed, and were rendered all the safer from the fact that no one knew of their existence.

A Boer told me that they waited for us, four deep in the trenches.

Quarter column formation:—On this question it must be stated that no other formation was possible; as it was, the various regiments of the Highland Brigade were altogether mixed up. I believe the only instance of any other formation being employed in a night attack was at Tel-el-Kebir, where the advance was over an open desert and not to be compared with the broken country near Magersfontein.

The mistake lay in not extending in sufficient time; a few minutes would have made the difference, though it is not by any means certain that the position could have been taken even then.

Wire obstacles.—A certain numbers of wire-clippers were served out to each company, but they were not sufficient. The wire fence in front of the Boer trenches consisted simply of an ordinary wire railing about 5 feet in height, with 5 rows of wire stretched from post to post, so that each section of fencing had to be cut. In addition, all sorts of old tins, cans, &c., were hung along it, some tins half-filled with stones. Of course the Boer had the exact range, and were able to make good practice directly they heard the jingle of the cans.

Cavalry dismounted.—One point to be noticed is how little is required to turn our troopers into excellent foot soldiers, which was shown at Magersfontein, where the 12th Lancers, dismounted by the order of their Colonel, held back the threatened flank attack on our right the whole morning.

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until relieved by the Guards. A little training in taking cover and a rifle in place of a carbine would give us a force which could do all that our cavalry does and a lot besides.

Lack of *Cavalry*:—Lord Methuen's chief weakness lay in his lack of cavalry.

The only regiments he had were the 9th and 12th Lancers: the former had been with him throughout, the latter only arrived at the Modder River, consequently all the reconnoitring had fallen on the 9th Lancers, whose horses were utterly done up and unfit for hard work of any sort, in fact most of them could barely get out of a walk.

——:o:——

Save us from our Friends!

—o—

Since the breath of reformation
Has produced an agitation,
  That has overwhelmed the Commons and the Lords;
We have had our curtain lectures,
And some manifold conjectures,
  On the best and cheapest way to make us "gawds."

Change of uniform and arms—
Newest culinary charms—
  And the latest style of Continental caps;
Whilst some "friend" has lately hinted
That our faces might be tinted
  In accordance with the "Khaki craze"—perhaps.

All the stars of education
And commercial speculation,
  Have sat upon our case in solemn state;
And have scribbled yards of chaff
To the "Times" and "Telegraph,"
  Till the editors felt bound to abdicate.

They have argued out the matter
With the tailor and the hatter,
  Till one thinks the army's going to be a treat;
Through the pleasing condescension
Of the man who raised the question,
  The energetic Person in the Street.

All our energies were dormant,
Till an extra rash informant
  Tried to hit another nail upon the head;
And it really is a question,
Should they act on his suggestion,
  If they do not count the infantry as dead.

But his dream enthusiastic,
Makes us angry and sarcastic
  From our lowest to our very highest grade,
Not contented with the pack
That we carry on our back
  We must add thereto—he says—a PICK and SPADE!!

C. B.

"She was a Cynic."

A STUDY.

—o—

SHE stood and looked out upon the gloom of a busy thoroughfare—the weary passing of a stream of thousands, endless and restless. Men who have had nothing else better to do than sit idly and dream, have called the hour gloaming and have wreathed its moments with the laurels of romance.

She smiled bitterly as the thought of it passed through her mind. She was the woman of to-day—a cynic.

And thus the bare possibility of romance bore no attraction for her.

She saw in the faces of the hurrying passers-by the keen material of business, the perpetually moving mass neither seeking joy nor avoiding sorrow, giving thought only to its actual present and nearest future.

She wondered where they were all going, those countless thousands, and in her inmost self she thought she could read their several hopes and joys.

I have said, she was a cynic.

Thus it was that she had no sympathy for sorrow.

She failed to see the need of it and the sight of a pinched, wan face was nothing to her. It brought no half-spoken query to her mind. "What of to-morrow?"

She was a child of the Twentieth Century and for her the helpless children of poverty found not place nor pity.

Such sights brought up so bitter a smile to her lips as chased the beauty from her eyes and carved the head of a Gorgon where should have been that of a Madonna.

Some one entered with a lighted lamp, the rosy warmth of which filled every corner of the *boudoir*.

Then she closed the curtained window and turned to the fire-place, seeking perhaps in the dancing firelight a foundation whereon to build her dreamland palaces.

The fire's flames played upon her pliant features, moulded by nature in her kindliest mood, her pouting lips—surely only meant for kisses, —eyes, that breathed the flame of nobility, that told of the full blood of ancestors years back on years.

A casual observer termed her beauty "regal" —what need to dwell on it more?

And yet, with all her beauty, riches and good name, the breath of a natural cynicism fanned its coldness over her every thought and action, turning the richness of her beauty to the stone of statuary. Thus her fate became her downfall.

The footman announced a visitor and she rose languidly to receive him, stepping forward with

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outstretched hands to greet him as he swept the heavy *portière* behind him.

The pallor of his face startled her into the ejaculation:

"Mark!"

"Dora!"

His eyes spoke volumes, and in a moment she was by his side.

He thrust her almost roughly aside as though fighting an insurmountable temptation.

"Don't!" he said hoarsely. "Sit down here, Dora, I have something of the utmost importance to say to you. No—" and he waived aside her gesture of reproach "—no, wait until you have heard me. What I have to say must be said to-night or not at all."

"Between us, Mark, there can be no secrets."

"You are right as usual, Dora—" and he added with bitter emphasis,—"no secrets!"

She leaned back on her sofa and screened her face from the heat of the fire. But her eyes were furtively watching him as he played nervously with a paper knife and gazed into the firelight, his fine brows knit in perplexity.

And her very eyes breathed love.

"Dearest, how long have you and I been engaged?"

"Three months to-morrow, Mark."

"And you have been happy since?"

"Mark!"

Her tone was a reproach in itself and it made him wince.

"What if I told you, Dora, whom I love better than my own soul, what if I told you that all that happiness must end?"

His keen eyes scanned her face and he caught at his breath.

"I should not believe you, Mark" she said simply, and his face dropped between his hands. "I love you too much, dear, to think that you could trifle with me."

He rose hastily and stood by her side, his voice was hoarse and he spoke with extreme difficulty.

"Good God, not trifled. Girl, do not make this trouble harder to bear. I have news to give you—bad news and you will need as much fortitude to bear it as I to tell it. This hesitation is foolishness." He caught a glimpse of her attentive attitude, her parted lips and the astonished gaze of her round blue eyes, then he hastily sought protection in the pattern of the hearth-rug.

He waited an instant to see if she would say anything.

Then he spoke.

"An hour ago I was the most respectable of stock-brokers; but now, I come to you—my promised wife—a ruined man."

Glancing at her, he noticed that her face had grown hard, and his heart seemed to beat slower.

"You mean to tell me that you are penniless?" She queried coldly.

"Absolutely"

"Really!"—with a satirical little laugh—"I am very sorry for you, sir." The wild blood of a fierce anger flushed his cheek.

"Is that all you have to say?"

A dainty shrug of her shoulders—

"I am not romantically inclined."

He seemed to breathe more freely and to hold his head more proudly.

"Thank you for the relief. I have loved you well—almost too well," he said and added, a little bitterly perhaps; "life is a game of chance and love in the seclusion of a cottage is—"

"Utterly absurd of course," and she languidly rose as though to intimate a desire to end the interview.

He dwelt with hungry eyes for an instant on the cat-like grace of her figure, but quenched the fierce fire of his soul's longing with a sigh and turned to pull back the *portière*.

An instant of supreme silence and he spoke again.

"I have dallied here too long—I have dreamed of the beauty of a woman's love—and my paradise is shattered. There are other and manlier worlds than that of the dreamland I have too long inhabited. They are waiting for men out there to defend their country's honour. You have given me the chance of a lifetime—If you should hear of me as dead—remember, I forgave and loved you to the last."

There was a catch in his voice and the wintry winds without sobbed in sympathy—"Good-bye, Dora."

The mere force of his eyes swept her reserve aside. For an instant she wavered, then recovering a little looked him in the face.

"I am sorry, Mark, but what avails it? To speak of marriage would be suicidal—therefore it becomes neither you nor I to mention it. We can be nothing to one another—let us part, and if we meet again in after life the very thought of what has been will have become blotted from our existence."

Then holding out her hand for his: "Do not make the parting harder for me."

A tearful "God bless you," a kiss on her finger tips, the rustling of a curtain—and he was gone.

Recovering, she moved to the fire and for an instant fought a fierce battle with her greater mind in the reflection of its ruddy flames.

"Utterly absurd, of course," she murmured.

And a smile of irony betrayed the stifling of her inner soul.

I have said—She was a cynic.

HOMO.

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Off Parade.

—o—

PASS-WORD FOR THE MONTH.—"PUT DOWN THAT KNIFE."

The band has again commenced to play at Coffee Shop, or more truthfully perhaps, at A. T. A., and the man with the stool discourses sweet music in manner other than that of clapping his hands. It is genuine this talent for music. Who indeed, save he, could ever produce from such a four-cornered instrument, bass of so soul-stirring a type.

A spring poet (I beg pardon—"an inspired idiot") was heard, a few Tuesdays ago. to relieve his mind of the following appropriate lines which express more vividly than I could the opinion of the troops for whose amusement the band plays :—

We are told that San-Toy
And the Messenger Boy,
Are each up-to-date inspirations.
If this is the case,
What a pity to waste
All their charms for our edifications!

—o—

If this year is in any way to be as last we will be again all khud-dies. Khud! Khud! from morning to night, that often did I regret not having been made a cow, so that I might have been able to chew the khud.

* * * * *

I have had it on good authority from one that to gain ease and comfort from a mattress half filled with cocoa-nut fibre is to make it *down*. On the hearing of the above I thought it rather far-fetched; but still further fetched I thought the following. You see it came about this way. We were sitting around the fire conversing on matters in general, when somehow or other, from talking and criticising on the movements of the "Pe Wet" (or as the time-expired men prefer it the "d—wet") the debate shifted to extras. "I wonder," said one Johnnie, "What we'll get to-morrow for extras." "Jam!" replied another. "How Jam?" we all asked. "Well, two half loaves jammed together."

———:o:———

A Lament.

—o—

On the mountains, that shield from the force of the gale
The low-lying glen, the strath and the vale;
On the shores that are whitened by breaker and foam
I'll wander no longer—no more will I roam!
Where rests the wild gull, on the cliff by the sea,
No more shall I dare its dangers for thee;
No more on the wave; no more by the shore
Shall Allan, of Oban, sport as of yore.

The storm of Atlantic shall come and shall go,
And the winds of the tempest in fury shall blow
Through many a wild winter, ere Allan again
Can return to enjoy those features of "hame"
Farewell! and adieu! thy cliffs and thy bay!
Sweet Oban! No more! No more shall I play;
The wild pibroch, the chant for the dead and the brave,
Amid the wild scenes of winter and wave.

HECTOR.

Our Annual Trip.

—o—

WE were a happy trio—the Seraph, I and the Kutte, but when, along with other unfortunates, we got orders to take our annual trip to the hills, we sweared dreadful swears, to the consternation of some agents of Mother S—'s soothing syrup who were at that time seeking to lead the Seraph's bosom friend "Ginger" on to the right path.

We wandered around the Bareilly institutes and looked sad, particularly so the Kutte, who seemed instinctively to know that we were about to leave the land of plenty, and mourned accordingly, his tail dropping between his legs with a click that spoke volumes.

I came across the Seraph just as he was escorting a number of hired bearers over to his domicile in the little tents over the way.

I mildly suggested that he should carry his own kit, and he got his rag out.

Now and again he takes bad attacks of that peculiar disease; he uses, what he terms, conventional remarks, and never by any chance sees through a joke at his own expense.

Nevertheless we both agreed on one point—that as we had to go to the hills, we must make the best of it.

Our stay in the little jerry-built lean-to 's holding eight a side was but a short one, thank goodness, and both the Seraph and I were heartily glad, after consigning the Kutte to the fatherly protection of a company sweeper, to bid a long farewell to the torments of camp life in Bareilly.

I might as well state that neither of us travelled much together, which was unfortunate, as the general run of the Seraph's intercourse is, to say the least of it, brilliant.

Most particularly is this the case when he administers gentle reproof to any of the coffee cooler clan.

I once—out of mere curiosity, of course—jotted down one of his most masterly attempts in that line.

It ran something like this :—

"You black—! What do you—mean? Didn't I—, —tell you—you—, —," etc., etc.

This excellent English was rendered more effective in a manner not strictly legal, but certainly most forcible.

You can understand how I missed his companionship during the tedious railway journey to Kathgodam. A happily peaceful night spent at Ranibagh, a very hot march next morning, and I welcomed with gladness the picturesque camp, rendered more so of course on account of its proximity to that desirable residence, the Brewery.

Talking about hot marches, it has always struck me as a most peculiar coincidence that so sure as we are trailing along in a perspiring state of apathy, our no doubt excellently meaning band is bound to strike up the soul-inspiring but decidedly tactless strains—"a *hot* time to-night."

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The Seraph says that he owes that particular march a grudge, and swears that he will one day be even with it.

I have heard it myself so often that I am come to the same conclusion as the overdone cockney, who observed in hackneyed rhyme:

"It'll taike a lot o' wearin' aht!!!"

If I got hold of it, I would give it a decidedly "hot time."

I was not at all surprised to find that the A. T. A. was not to be seen at the Brewery. In fact I shook hands with myself, for had I not already prophesied that it could not undertake so tedious a march without at least a week's sleep?

Neither the Seraph nor I wept much over its loss, and I think that the Kutte was more inclined to be glad than anything as it preferred a gentle evening stroll, with its attendant possibilities of meeting numerous female acquaintances, to an hour or so spent in consulting stale buns and an apology for dirty water.

For once in a way it was *not* very cold at Bowallee, which put the Seraph in quite a good humour.

We spent the evening in visiting all the openly "secret" societies, who had bon-fires outside the camp. We instituted ourselves as Tea-tasters-in-chief to the Temperance world, and really managed a very fair supper on the cheap. My thanks are due to the opportune disappearance of the moon behind a cloud just at the moment when the Kutte dived his head into a basket of "wads," and vanished with a respectable mouthful in time to escape observation.

Really I breathed a sigh of relief when I handed that fearful animal back to his guardian "mehtar" every morning.

It goes without saying that we got a bath at Ratighat.

The Seraph finds a similitude between that camp and Greenock. He goes into raptures over it, and says there is a homely feeling in the annual downpour of rain we get there.

Homely, be hanged! Do you call it homely to find your straw-blankets and to-morrow's *roti* floating away into the inferno?

Is it homely to turn out and dig trenches with your comb and tooth-brush, or wake up after a wet night and discover that your *suleetah* has not been covered by the tent-flap?

I have mentioned before that the Seraph is an ass.

I understood that our day's delay at Ratighat was due to the earnest desire of some big philosophers to tap us and see what percentage of "senses" the 93rd possessed.

Nobody came round with any tapping engines, so I presume that they must have taken it for granted that we were quite a superior class of people.

We had at least "sense" enough to give our wet bedding a good drying.

Bumshaon is a very nice place—very nice indeed, but we had all been there before, and it is a little feeding up when you spot a place you have seen dozens of times before, isn't it? I personally "sha(o)n't bum" about the number of times I have been there, but even the beer barrels at the canteen tent seemed to linger there with a fondness which is inborn to old, old chums.

I separated the Kutte from some of his old friends, prevented him from being butted by a water buffalo, and took him for a long walk up the road to Ranikhet. We found the Seraph seated on the third mile-stone from camp—looking longingly at the corkscrew.

He had the woe-begone appearance of one who is "on the rocks."

I felt quite sorry for him, particularly when he told me he was thinking of the mile-stone carrying the immortal superscription:—

RANIKHET

0 MILES.

"That stone," says the Seraph, "is surely the grave-mark of a genius, who has found a short cut to paradise."

All the secret societies fell awfully flat that night, and we nearly got done over for our supper. In fact, had it not been that the Seraph chanced to overhear a sweet voice singing hymns to the moon and the jackals, we had gone hungry to bed.

Remember this excellent maxim. When on the march, look for bon-fires. And when you have spotted one, never leave it. It is better to drink tea and sing hymns than to go to a supperless couch. If you fancy beer on the march—drink it! You can only die once. Tea doesn't kill you mercifully, it teases you, but always stick up for it. It will often as not give you a supper.

If "tea" fails—try "thumping." The finest thing in the world, I can assure you, and the Seraph will bear me out.

We were quite enthusiastic about the last day's march, although both of us would have felt far more gratified if Moses had happened to be handy with his water-productive walking stick at the corkscrew.

Our old acquaintance Mr. Parvion must have done him a winger and caught an earlier train.

Characteristically, his hospitality only extended to sergeants, so the Seraph and I have decided to take our custom next door.

The Kutte greeted my arrival at the Pinnacle most vociferously. Really it seemed quite homely after a long absence.

The Seraph doesn't seem to think so, though he is scarcely a criterion, he comes from so many places. It really has struck me as peculiar that he *always* knows "that tobacconist's shop at the bottom of the street on the right hand side - just opposite that big pub—can't think of the name, you know."

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No wonder he's got so many "townies."

It added greatly to my relief when I discovered that I was to make my home in the same bungalow as last year. It is only fair, I consider, to the descendants of those "flat-backs" (to make use of a vulgar appellation), who performed their field days over my slumbering carcass then, that they should skip over the same ground as their forefathers. The Seraph intends to sacrifice himself upon the altar of fame for the good of the community at large by inventing a poison for the poor things. To be taken internally, I believe—as often as possible.

It will be a pity for him to waste his small stock of genius, as Government do not like inventions that are not of German make. CAVEAT ACTOR.

———: o :———

Volunteer Company for South Africa.

THE Volunteer Company of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, now under orders for the Front (including the Paisley contingent), was inspected at Stirling on Saturday by Colonel Trotter. The company which, according to regulation, numbers 3 officers and 113 men, have been drawn in pretty equal proportions from the seven Volunteer Battalions embraced in the territorial district—namely, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Renfrew, the 1st Stirling, the 1st Argyll, the Dumbarton Rifles, and the Clackmannan and Kinross. Since they mobilised at the depôt at Stirling three weeks ago, the men have been clothed and equipped for active service, have undergone a couple of days' musketry training at the Greenhill ranges fourteen miles away, and have been diligently drilled in those outpost and attack exercises which are best calculated to prepare them for the work in the field that may lie before them. It was evident to those who saw the men when they first came into barracks and who witnessed the parade on Saturday, that the men had profited much by their fortnight's training. Intelligent and willing to learn to begin with they showed a good deal of that cohesion and steadiness which comes from working together daily under the same officers. The officers themselves have no doubt learned a good deal during the past three weeks in those details of military training which only camp or barrack life can give. The localities from which the three officers have been drawn are a significant indication of the wide extent of the regimental district over which Colonel Trotter presides. Captain Paton, who commands the company, belongs to the Pollokshaws contingent of the 3rd Renfrew; Lieutenant Ross, the first Lieutenant, hails from Alloa, the head-quarters of the Clackmannan and Kinross Battalion; and Lieutenant Jack, the second Lieutenant, is, of course, from Paisley. To go a step further, the army non-commissioned officer who has been appointed colour-sergeant of the company is Sergeant-Instructor Wight, an old 93rd man, who up till the other day was Volunteer instructor at Rothesay. Among those present at the inspection were:—Col. Sir Thomas Glen-Coats, of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion; Colonel Lamont, of the 1st; Colonel King and Colonel Morton, of the 4th; Captain and Adjutant Henderson, of the 4th; Captain Campbell, of the 4th (Militia) Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders; and Captain Denholm, the depôt quartermaster. After a very satisfactory inspection was over, the flanks were thrown forward so as to give the formation of three sides of a square, and the inspecting officer addressed a few words to the company.

Colonel Trotter, in his short speech, said he had much pleasure in telling Captain Paton and the members of his Company how pleased he was with its performances—not only with the performance it had gone through on parade, but also with the great and marked improvement which had taken place in the company during the two short weeks it had been at Stirling Castle. He was very glad that several of the commanding officers of the various units which had contributed to the company had been able to come to this inspection, and to judge for themselves of the improvement which had been made on the excellent quality they had supplied. Those who had not been able to come had written to him to express their extreme regret at not being present, but he was sure that the accounts of them which they expected to come from South Africa when they got there, and which had been coming very frequently about the men of the other company whom they were going out to relieve, would be an entire reward to their commanding officers for their kindness and liberality, and for all the trouble they had taken about their men. He had that morning received a letter from the Secretary for Scotland, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, in which he asked him (Colonel Trotter) to give the Volunteers this message:—"I shall be greatly obliged if you will express to the Volunteers my regret that I am not able to be present to see them before they go off, and that if it had been possible I should have come." That letter showed how much people where interested in them—not only their commanding officers and friends, but the Secretary for Scotland himself. He (Colonel Trotter) thought he knew from experience that they would find the feeling that their friends were bearing them in mind a very happy and consoling one in the many lonely hours which they might have to pass on active service before they came home again.

The remarks of Colonel Trotter brought the proceedings to a close, and the company thereupon marched back to quarters for dinner. As the men sat at their meal soon after, Colonel Trotter made a round of the rooms.

From the Paisley and Renfrewshire Gazette.

———: o :———

What the Parrot is saying

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.

THAT it's "Drop that knife."

That it's seen a few mair "life and death struggles" since then.

That it can tak whit it likes oot o' that.

That it's got a wee roond table a foot square.

That there wis some funny expressions used on the march up.

That it would like tae ken the chap that put the "geography" in the tea at Bamshaon.

That it would like tae mak a translation.

That the conical hill battery escorted the "Old Guard" up.

That there wis three camels tae pack on ane tent.

That it's back tae navvying again.

That the "jumpers" stood at ease.

That it's sometimes hard tae call a spade, a spade.

That it kens a maister gunner.

That he is guid at wielding the stick as weel.

That he is a bit o' a hammerman tae.

That the Pinnacle stands in exactly the same place as last year.

That a jackal is better than naething.

That the light troop holds the Transvaalers,

That the same old moon has done shining.

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Temperance News.

(From Correspondents)

—o—

I. O. G. T.

The "Pride of Sutherland" Lodge No. 93 is still progressing in the regiment, though you may not have heard much news from us lately. We have lots of initiations every week and are always open for still more. "Let 'em all come" is our motto. Now we are at Ranikhet we hope to get many more to join us, and it will not be our fault if we are not successful. At present we have a few members in our ranks, who, until recently were not perhaps, quite such good soldiers as they might have been. May their good resolutions continue unbroken. Before leaving Bareilly the Lodge gave a farewell social to the members of the Battery Lodge who were leaving for Kirkee a few days afterwards. Everything passed off very successfully. The programme was good, and a very pleasant evening was spent. The loss of the Battery Lodge is a severe blow to the district, but we hope that the new Battery may prove themselves to be as energetic and hard-working as their predecessors.

C. D.

—:o:—

I. O. R.

—o—

EXCELSIOR Tent is still doing good work in the great cause of Temperance, and many new faces are always to be seen in its ranks. During our short stay in Bareilly we had very lively and pleasant times with the Pride of Westmoreland Tent, and were sorry when the orders regarding our departure for the hills came in. No doubt we shall see some of our Bareilly friends up here in a short time, either on furlough or at the standing camp. Information regarding the rules of our order can be obtained at any time from the Chief Ruler, Secretary, or any member of the Tent, and will be carefully explained to any desirous of joining our ranks. The I. O. R. is a benefit as well as a temperance society, just the thing for time-expired men going home, ensuring as it does the provision of an amount capable of supporting one in case of illness consequent on the change of climate.

On the 14th February was held our anniversary, and it was a great success. After business in session was got over we welcomed the "Pride of Westmoreland" and the Battery Branch, and the remainder of the evening was passed in a very pleasant and enjoyable manner.

The programme of the evening's entertainment was an exceptionally good one and the thanks of the members of the Tent are due to the Friends and Brothers who contributed to the success of the "Anniversary Social."

T. C.

Football.

—o—

After a suspension of nearly two months through the demise of Her Most Gracious Majesty, the exciting and exhilarating game of *futba'* has again taken its place at the head of our national pastimes. There is little to chronicle as the resumption only took place late in the month. Two league matches were played off, *viz.*, G *v.* A, and F *v.* D, the former in each game winning by a comfortable majority. As the termination of the league is near at hand, all are naturally interested in the keen rivalry of F, G and B Companies. These teams occupy the leading places on the table with 8 points for six games, which is something similar to the grand struggle which is at present taking place for the English League Championship. Should the teams take an example and play on their merits, we ought to witness a good struggle for the regimental championship.

By an inadvertent mistake, O'Connor of F Company has been shown with only one goal to his credit in place of three. He with Gilmour and Houston are giving Clarke a good race for top-scorer, who had better look to his laurels if he would retain his lead.

LEAGUE.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company*, *26th March* 1901—This was too one-sided to offer much interest. "G" was not fully representative, but were quite good enough for their 5 goal victory over their opponents, who seem to be deteriorating in every match they take part in, though a crumb of comfort may be given to them in that they played a man short throughout the whole of the hour. "G" in the first half hotly attacked the north goal, where two points were registered, the first by Houston and the second by Gilmour, "A" seldom proving dangerous except once when a miss-kick by McKay nearly let McAllister in. In the latter half the play was a repetition of the first, "G" pressing almost all the while and adding another three goals to their credit by Houston (2) and Gilmour (1). Final result "G" 5 goals, "A" *nil.*

"*G*" *Company.—Goal*, Ellis; *Backs*, McKay, Mullholland; *Half-backs*, Benson, Eite, Brown; *Forwards*, Gilmour, Maslin, Houston, McArthur, Wilson.

"*A*" *Company.—Goal*, Hunter; *Backs*, Dick, Park; *Half-backs* H. Allan, Maclean; *Forwards*, Quinn, Riddock, McGeechan, McAllister, Stewart.

"*D*" *Company* v. "*F*" *Company*, *29th March* 1901.—As in the previous match this also was a one-sided game, though at first it was expected to be a well contested one. In the opening stages "D" had the most of the play, and succeeded in notching a point seven minutes from the start through a *melée* in front of F's goal, McKenzie doing the needful with his head. Their lead was only short-lived as four minutes later O'Connor made his side level, and a few minutes later gave them the lead by another goal. Nothing further was scored previous to half time. "F" in the second half outplayed their opponents, who appeared to be demoralised when Turnbull beat D's custodian with a hard ground shot which he had no chance of saving. A 4th was added by Fox, which was again augmented by a 5th and 6th by O'Connor and Auchinvole, respectively. The halves of "F" played very fine, McGowan and Watson easily holding the opposing five in hand. Final result "F" 6 goals, "D" 1.

"*F*" *Company.—Goal*, Anderson; *Backs*, Wallace, McNee; *Half-backs*, Watson, McGowan, Edwards; *Forwards*, Turnbull, Fox, Auchinvole, Moore, O'Connor.

"*D*" *Company.—Goal*, McMaster; *Backs*, Orr, Allan; *Half-backs* Graham, Hunter, Ferguson; *Forwards*, McKenzie, Pollock, Cunningham, Blake, McGregor.

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LEAGUE TABLE ENDING THE MONTH OF MARCH 1901.

No.	Coy.	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	Goals. For.	Goals. Against.	Points.
1	G	6	3	2	1	14	5	8
2	F	6	4	0	2	13	6	8
3	B	6	4	0	2	10	6	8
4	C	6	3	1	2	11	5	6
5	H	6	3	0	3	5	11	6
6	E	5	2	1	2	11	6	5
7	D	6	1	1	4	5	15	3
8	A	5	0	1	4	2	14	1

GOAL SCORERS.

Eight Goals.

Clarke ("E").

Six Goals.

O'Connor, ("F"), Houston ("G"), Gilmour ("G").

Four Goals.

Hogg ("C").

Three Goals.

Auchinvole ("F"), Kerr ("B").

Two Goals.

Lt. Forbes, Cairns, McDonald, ("C") Gordon ("B"), Pollock, McKenzie ("D").

One Goal.

McGeechan, McAllister ("A"), Jamieson, Hudgton, Johnson ("B"), Wilson ("C"), McGregor ("D"), McLean, Montgomery ("E"), Fox, Turnbull, Watson, Moore ("F"), Comrie, McTaggart, Daly ("H").

———: o :———

Ninety-third Calendar for May 1901.

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1 W. Left Table Bay for England, 1814. Est. reduced to 33 officers, 59 Sergeants, 23 Drummers and Pipers, 40 Corporals and 480 Privates, 1872.

2 Th. Lieut.-Col. Alexander Halkett to 104th Foot, 1810.

3 F. George Johnston, Lieut.-Col., 1810. Emb. at Balaclava on board *Sphynx* and *Nemours* for expedition to Kertch and Yenikale (cancelled), 1855.

4 S.

5 S. Battle of Bareilly, 1858. 1 man killed.

6 M. "Big Sam" (Sergeant Samuel McDonald) d., 1802; he was 6 ft. 10 in. in height, and measured 48 round chest; buried in the Strangers Cemetery, Guernsey. Arrd. Spithead from West Indies, 1834 (strength 371 N.-C. O.'s and men). Gallipoli to Scutari, 1854. Terrific hailstorm at Nowshera, 1897; hailstones 4½ in. in circumference.

7 Tu. Cherat summer detachment left Nowshera, 1896.

8 W. Disembarked Ramsgate, from West Indies, 1834, to Canterbury.

9 Th.

10 F. Final Cricket Clock Tournament, Nowshera, 1897 (1st day).

11 S. Final Cricket Clock Tournament, 1897, "B" Company winners.

12 S. Edinburgh to Portsmouth on board *Himalaya*, 1873.

13 M. "B" and "H" Companies (summer detachment) to Cherat, 1897.

14 Tu. Arrd. Portsmouth from Granton, 1873; to Aldershot. Arrived Spithead from America, 1815; ordered to Cork.

15 W. Arrived Aldershot, 1873.

16 Th. Re-inforced at Canterbury by Depôt Companies, 1834. Punkahs commenced, Nowshera, 1896.

17 F. Dublin for Curragh, 1877.

18 S. Weedon for N. of England by detachments 1835; Head-quarters, Blackburn.

19 S. Weedon for N. of England, 1835.

20 M.

21 Tu.

22 W. Est. augmented to 800 rank and file, 1843. Again embark (ships *Sphynx* and *Stromboli*) for expedition to Gulf of Kertch, 1855. New Colours presented at Dover by H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge, 1857.

23 Th.

24 F. Queen Victoria born, 1819; died, 22nd January, 1901.

25 S.

26 S.

27 M. Weedon to N. of England, 1835.

28 Tu. Disembarked, Cork, 1815, to Birr; re-inforced following in December, by draft from reduced 2nd battalion.

29 W.

30 Th. Maj-Gen. Sir John Cameron, K. C. B., Colonel to 9th Foot, 1833.

31 F. Lt.-Gen. Sir Jasper Nicolls, K.C.B., Colonel 1833.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant.—No. 3611, Lance-Sergeant A. Maskell, "B" Company, dated 11th February 1901.

To be Sergeant on Unattached List—Authority dated Simla, 12th February 1901.—No. 3519, Private G. J. Artlett, employed in the office of the Quarter-Master General, with effect from 17th January 1901.

To be Corporals.—No. 5667, Lance-Corporal A. Goddard, "A" Company, dated 11th February 1901; No. 6145, Lance-Corporal A. McDonald, "G" Company, dated 6th March 1901.

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Pay of Rank.

To be paid Lance-Sergeant.—No. 3808, Corporal J. Allison, "D" Company, dated 11th February 1901; No. 3138, Corporal W. Fawcett, "E" Company, dated 11th March 1901.

To be paid Lance-Corporal.—No. 5193, Lance-Corporal W. Cole, "D" Company, dated 11th February 1901.

Ante-dated.

To the rank of Sergeant.—No. 3628, Sergeant F. A. Poole, Supernumerary List, to 7th December 1900; No. 3276, Sergeant J. Ward, "B" Company, to 7th December 1900; No. 4526, Sergeant W. Watt, "D" Company, to 5th January 1901.

To the rank of Corporal.—No. 3906, Corporal J. Lee, "C" Company, to 7th December 1900; No. 5294, Corporal J Stevenson, "D" Company, to 5th January 1901.

Pay of Lance-Sergeant.—No. 3906, Lance-Sergeant J. Lee, "C" Company, to 7th December 1900; No. 4628, Lance-Sergeant G. Ballantine, "E" Company, to 5th January 1901.

Pay of Lance-Corporals.—No. 5874, Lance-Corporal A. Thomson, "G" Company, to 7th December 1900; No. 5620, Lance-Corporal E. Ellis, "G" Company, to 5th January 1901.

Appointments.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5583, Private J. Dick, "A" Company, dated 9th March; No. 3839, Private W. Campbell, "B" Company, dated 26th March.

To be Pay Sergeant of "H" Company.—No. 3116, Sergeant W. R. Weller.

To be Garrison Military Provost Sergeant.—No. 2529. Sergeant D. Blair, "E" Company.

To be Garrison Librarian.—No. 4484, Sergeant P. G. Mathew, "F" Company.

To be Bandsman.—No. 4922, Private R. Green, "A" Company.

To be School Assistant.—No. 5390, Lance-Corporal A. Stewart, "B" Company.

To fire Time Gun.—No. 6133, Private J. Roberts, "G." Company.

Good Conduct Pay.

At 2d. per diem :—

"B" Company.

No. 5390, Lce.-Corpl. A. Stewart. | No. 5405, Pte. S. McDermott.

"C" Company.

No. 5392, Private R. Duncanson.

"D" Company.

No. 5394, Pte. J. Ross. | No. 4155, Pte. H. Wilson.

"F" Company.

No. 4094, Pte. E. Mitchell. | No. 4550, Pte. G. Ross.

At 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 3067, Private D. J. Smith.

"C" Company

No. 5536, Private J. Boyd.

"D" Company.

No. 5650, Pte. J. Campbell. | No. 5632, Pte. M. Spellman.

"E" Company.

No. 4007, Pte. T. Neilson. | No. 4002, Dr. W. McLachlan.

"F" Company.

No. 5644, Pte. J. Munro. | No. 6259, Pte. A. Ruchinvole.

"G" Company.

No. 5517, Private J. Archibald.

Re-engagements and Extensions.

To complete twenty-one years' service :—

No. 3581, Sergeant F. Beavis, "C" Company.
" 3775, " G. Forbes, "F" "
" 3808, Lance-Sergeant J. Allison "D" "
" 3885, Corporal E. Mahoney "C" "

To complete twelve years' service with the colours :—

No. 4590, Corporal J. Watson, "F" Company.
" 5219, " M. Sutherland, "F" "
" 4805, " W. Norrie, "C" "

Company Transfers.

No. 3116, Sergeant W. Weller, "E" to "H" Coy.
" 6145, Corporal A. MacDonald, "G" to "B" "
" 4922, Bandsman R. Green, "A" to "C" "

Taken on Strength.

Private George Rodwell transferred from 1st Battalion, Royal West Kent Regiment, on 15th February 1901, and posted to "D" Company.

Struck off Strength.

Embarked for England on S. S. Assaye, 2nd March :—

No. 2930, Sergeant J. Dawson, "H" Company.
" 4183, Private J. Burke, "D" "
" 6016, " J. McDonald, "E" "

Number allotted.

The number 7960 has been allotted to Private V. H. G. MacKenzie, "B" Company.

Change of Name.

No. 5513, Private W. Thomson, "C" Company, assumes the name of "Richard Foster."

Educational Certificates.

Granted First Class Certificates of Education, dated 25th September 1900:—

No. 3144, Sergeant W. Olden, "A" Company.
" 4484, " P. G. Matthew, "F" "
" 5601, Lce.-Sergeant E. A. Daniel, "B" "
" 4628 " G. Ballantine, "E" "
" 5219, Corporal M. Sutherland, "F" "
" 6145, " A. MacDonald, "B" "
" 4619, Private W. MacKinnon, "G" "
" 6302, " J. Sutherland, "H" "
" 4654, " C. Bennie, "G" "
" 5229, " W. Saunders, "C" "

Passed in Part I :—

No. 5842, Corporal R. Glass, "A" Company.
" 5390, Lance-Corporal A. Stewart, "B" "
" 5500, Private H. Sear, "H" "
" 6427, " H. Reid, "H" "
" 6167, " N. Simpson, "H" "
" 5120, " J. Moffat, "F" "

To be re-examined in one subject only :—

No. 6312, Private R. Paton, "F" Company.

Certificates.

Granted certificate as Regimental Assistant Armourer :—

No. 6272, Private J. Leitch, "G" Company.

Restoration of Service.

In accordance with Para. 1842, King's Regulation, the service forfeited by :—

No. 6369, Private J. Robertson, "H" Company.
" 5331, " D. Aird, "E" "

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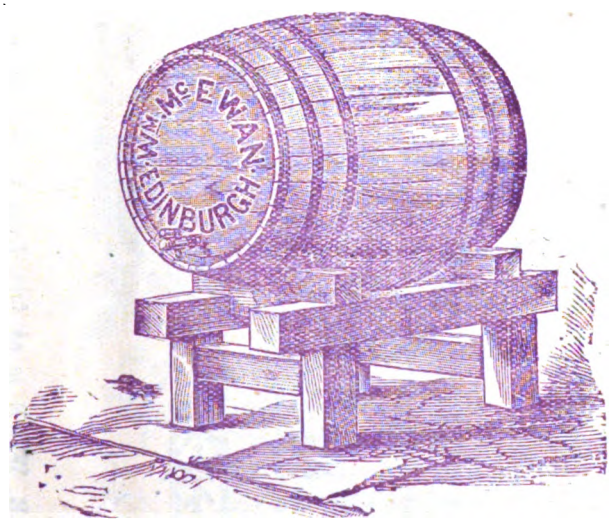

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 1—Vol. VII. RANIKHET,—MAY 1901. [Price, 2 Annas.

Editorial.

—o—

The New Order of Things.

THE march of time and the growth of Empires with their attendant responsibilities continually accruing has forced upon the civilised world the burden of huge armaments, each destined to safeguard the interests of its particular nation and all a menace to the existence of peace. A very short while since the present Czar of Russia propounded a scheme for universal peace, after some delay a conference was formed at the Hague, but as the utter impracticability of the scheme was apparent from the outset this conference became simply a repetition of the Geneva Convention, and all ended as had been early foreseen in a total disagreement amongst the various envoys.

Since the failure of this ruse, for in the light of subsequent events that such was its character has been clearly demonstrated, the tendency on part of every nation has been to increase its armaments generally, some in accordance with their means and material and others decidedly not so.

Only recently Great Britain's new scheme has been formulated, though perhaps the term Great Britain in this instance is scarcely applicable, for it has been described as the dream of a certain prominent member who has somewhat of a reputation as a statician. It would probably weary our readers to reiterate the whole of the proposed scheme, suffice to say that the following is roughly the result aimed at.

The formation of six complete Army Corps each comprising 40,000 men.

The trebling of the Yeomanry Force, namely 30,000 men.

The formation of eight reserve Garrison Battalions, consisting of men who have completed their first period with the colours.

And lastly the division of Great Britain into six districts, each containing its Army Corps of 40,000 men, each commanded by some well-known General Officer of distinction with his attendant staff, &c., and all this at a very slightly increased cost above the £17,500,000 which the present establishment demands.

Well, apart from the other impossibilities which the scheme propounds, the latter savours rather of the miraculous, unless the pay is to be largely reduced or so many economical reforms introduced as will guarantee this extraordinary result.

The utter impracticability of the scheme, glancing at it lightly, may be summed up thus:—

Firstly, no increase of pay is proposed, and since we have extreme difficulty in raising sufficient men for the two skeleton Army Corps of the existing establishment, where are the men coming from for the other four ?

Secondly, in case the scheme were practicable these large bodies of men could only be accommodated at such places as Strensall, Curragh, Aldershot, Salisbury Plain, York and so on, for the initial expense in finding accommodation for such numbers would be excessively burdensome

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and we should fancy would represent a total several times Mr. Brodrick's modest estimate.

Then again where are the numerous staff to be found. It would appear probable that a by no means inconsiderable force will have to be maintained in South Africa for a more or less indefinite period, and presumably a certain number of highly trained and efficient officers will be required for that purpose.

Passing on to the third proposition with regard to Garrison Battalions, it is a matter of common knowledge that reservists are under the existing terms not exactly rushing to fill these regiments with the prospects of seven or eight years' service in a Mediterranean station with no chance of getting home.

Thus it becomes apparent that these paper propositions, though exceedingly pleasant to read of, are at the bottom utterly unsound and unfeasible, whilst some go so far as to say that they exceed by far our requirements. Whether that is so is hard to decide, but one may rest fairly secure in the belief that Mr. Brodrick's scheme will meet with the reception it deserves.

It would appear, looking at the proposed large increase in the number of men, that some faulty estimate had been based on the recruiting returns during the crucial period of this war; we believe the numbers actually recruited for the Regular Army and Militia during the last year amounted to approximately 90,000 men, unquestionably a very satisfactory result, but not one on which to plot any estimate for recruiting in the piping times of peace.

One feature that we think has caused some little surprise is that no mention is made of any increase of pay to the lower ranks of the army; it seemed highly probable at one time that this would form one of the most important points in the proposed reforms; however, apparently the wish in many people's minds was father to the thought, though in the event of Mr. Brodrick's scheme failing we must not lose all hope of the extra pice eventually coming along.

No one we venture to predict can be satisfied with this scheme, no one can even entertain it, and many doubtless will look on it as purely a party formula little calculated to pacify the clamourings of the many who wish to profit by our recent experiences, and who look for honest, necessary, and true reforms.

We may be in error, but surely party motives are too prominent in all this propaganda, so much good was promised, and such a poor substitute is offered, something practicable was asked for, and though the projected scheme is grand in scale it is meaningless and fallible in practice.

—:0:—

SKIRLS

FIELD days have been of weekly occurrence during the past month, the military training companies as usual figuring as opponents of the remainder of the battalion. "A" and "C" Companies have evidently profited by their field training instruction, the use of cover never being more fully demonstrated than when at Gunnia Deo, on the 10th of the month; these two companies blocked the advance of the battalion for several hours, in fact until the "Cease fire" went, without the battalion being able to fire more than a few scattered shots or seeing more than half a dozen of the enemy. Even the scouts were unable to locate the position of more than one or two parties of the enemy, and had it been real warfare the daring spirits who obtained the information would probably have suffered for their temerity.

The 17th found the battalion, according to the special idea, escorting a convoy of food stuffs to Ramnaggar. "A" and "C" Companies were again the enemy, this time of the uncivilised kind. Owing to bad scouting on the part of the scouts sent out from the battalion, a large party of the enemy were allowed to hide in the ground near the cemetery, and when the convoy reached a certain point of the road this party opened fire with disastrous effect; effectually blocking the further progress of the convoy who would have had rather a warm time as the place of attack was totally devoid of cover. The "Cease fire" sounding just then put an end to the combat, leaving the guardians of the convoy with the rather discomforting reflection that, had it been Boers who attacked them, the convoy would assuredly have been lost.

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As the mistakes on this field day were due to bad scouting, so the success of any military undertaking in time of war depends largely on effective scouting. Without such no commander can be successful, and too much pains cannot be taken by the men selected for the work to see that everything they are told to do is done thoroughly, and that they *keep their eyes open*. In connection with this we would call our readers' attention, and especially those who act as scouts, to the advice, contained on another page, of Sir Frederick Maurice, the General Officer Commanding the Woolwich District.

* * * * *

The members of the Sergeants' Mess have reinstituted their fortnightly practice dances, and the first of the season was an unqualified success, promising well for future pleasure. The first and third Wednesdays are the nights selected.

On the second and fourth Thursdays of the month "At Homes" are held on the Tennis and Badminton courts. A small select band in attendance is a pleasant addition to the enjoyment.

* * * * *

The following cutting from the pages of a Scottish paper will probably interest many members of the battalion, and especially those of his comrades who were intimate with Mr. Nigel Oliphant.

An account of Mr. Oliphant's experiences during the Defence of Peking appeared in our January number, and the sequel will be greeted with pleasure by all.

Intimation has just been received from Mr. H. T. Anstruther, M.P., that the War Office has awarded £500 to Mr. Nigel Oliphant, son of Mr. T. T. Oliphant, Queen Mary's, St. Andrews, as an honorarium in consideration of his gallantry and the wounds he sustained in defending the Legations in Peking.

* * * * *

Messrs. Gale and Polden are to be congratulated upon their new venture "The Military Mail and Volunteer Review," as it avows itself to be "a real army paper devoted exclusively to military matters." No. 1 is to hand, teeming with army topics treated in a fresh and taking style, military news from far and near, and everything that is of most interest to soldiers. The price is only the modest penny.

* * * * *

A recently published order conveys the information that "All officers are to undergo an annual course of swordsmanship. This course will be conducted in the gymnasium and will consist of instruction in the sword exercise, in sword *v.* sword, and in sword *v.* bayonet. Each officer will receive not less than twenty lessons by 31st October."

* * * * *

Captain Tweedie has gone on leave for three months to Kashmir. 2nd-Lieutenant Langton will have the command and pay of "H" Company during Captain Tweedie's absence.

* * * * *

Sergeant Watt, "C" Company, and fifteen men from the companies of the left half battalion proceeded during the month to Bareilly to undergo instruction in the duties of mounted infantry. The party will be attached to the 70th Battery, Royal Field Artillery, during their stay on the plains.

* * * * *

2nd-Lieutenants Reed, Sanders, Bailey, Scott and Bird on completion of twelve months' training with the battalion left during the month to join the native regiments to which they have been appointed. Mr. Reed and Mr. Bird joined the 4th Rajputs at Agra; Mr. Sanders the 17th (Loyal Purbiyas) Bengal Infantry at Dera Ismail Khan; Mr. Bailey, the 16th Bengal Infantry at Durenda; and Mr. Scott, the 12th (Kelat and Ghilzai) Bengal Infantry at Alipur.

* * * * *

The Commanding Officer has received an acknowledgment, with thanks, from the Officer Commanding 91st Regimental District for the sum of £ 7-13-4, collected at a regimental service for the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders' Soldiers' Home to be erected at Stirling.

* * * * *

The new "Musketry scheme" for the present year has been published and contains many new features. Individual practices predominate, and though a proportionally higher standard of marksmanship is required than in previous years, there is satisfaction in the reflection that the course is at least more practical.

"D" Company have commenced their annual course and the results of the new scheme will be watched with interest.

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"A" and "C" Companies have finished their field training. On Friday, 19th, they were inspected at Upat by the Commanding Officer. "B" and "E" Companies are the new starters, whilst "C" Company have just been "struck off" again for the annual twelve days' gymnastic course.

* * * * *

Major C. Grant who, since early in 1896 until recently, was D. A. A. G. for Musketry, Bombay Command, has been promoted to a Lieutenant-Colonelcy on half pay. Lieutenant-Colonel Grant's period of rest on half pay will be of very short duration, as according to the Gazette of a few days ago he will soon be on "the staff" again, this time as D. A. A. G. for British Army Schools, Madras and Bombay Commands.

* * * * *

Captain E. C. H. Grant of our 1st Battalion has vacated the appointment of District Inspector of Musketry, Aldershot, on appointment to the Adjutancy of the 24th Battalion, Imperial Yeomanry, a specially raised battalion, known as the Middlesex Mounted Rifles.

Captain Grant's scientific knowledge of musketry ought to stand him in good stead in South Africa, to which country he sailed with his battalion about the beginning of April.

* * * * *

Lieutenant McPherson and Sergeant Stubbs left towards the end of the month to join the new class forming at the School of Musketry, Pachmari. Sergeant Arnott also went for the second time in the capacity of instructor.

* * * * *

The draft, christened the "European cooks" as they arrived soon after the institution of cooking by British soldiers in India, marched in to Ranikhet on the morning of the 23rd April. Its strength consisted of Lance-Sergeant Gibbs and thirty rank and file, inclusive of two boys. Very little can be said on the score of appearance of the draft as it is the most youthful addition to the battalion we have yet seen, mostly boys in fact. However, a summer in Ranikhet and plenty of khud-climbing will soon bring the improving Indian tan to their cheeks.

* * * * *

Our "Details" are to be congratulated upon the excellent show they made in the Army Cup ties by winning their way into the semi-finals. Unfortunately for their chances of getting into the final they were met in the semi-final by the 74th Highlanders, the eventual winners of the cup. The two teams met at Chester, a sort of half-way-house arrangement, the Details A. and S. Highlanders, crossing over from Belfast, and the 74th Highlanders from Aldershot. The game, which was fast and exciting throughout, was characterised by some excellent play. The 74th scored two goals and with this against them the Argyll and Sutherland men organised a determined attack which culminated in their obtaining a goal. The remainder of the game ruled in favour of the 74th, who added two more goals and won by four goals to one.

We congratulate the 74th upon their fine stand in the final for the cup against the 3rd Coldstream Guards. By all accounts the game was one of the most stubborn in the annals of the competition, extra time having to be played before either of the contestants could claim a victory. The result was:—74th Highlanders, 1; 3rd Coldstream Guards, 0. The following were the matches played by the Details A. and S. Highlanders in the various rounds for the Army Cup:—

1ST ROUND.

Details A. and S. H. beat 21st Lancers.

2ND ROUND.

Details A. and S. H., 1; 3rd A. and S. H., 7.

3RD ROUND.

Details A. and S. H., a bye.

4TH ROUND.

Details A. and S. H., 1; 1st Yorkshire L. I., 0.

SEMI-FINALS.

2nd H. L. I., 4; Details A and S. H., 1.

* * * * *

2nd-Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean, Corporal Atkinson, and Lance-Corporal Tawse have proceeded to join the new class at the school of signalling, Kasauli, Sergeant Durnan has also gone as an instructor.

* * * * * *

The spring time is evidently the superior season of competition and excitement. On the 20th the final event of the football season came off, "B" Company beating "F" Company with whom they tied in the league competition by one goal to *nil*, thus securing the football trophy.

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No cricket league fixtures have been played as yet, though in the interest of sport some attempt ought to be made to wrest the clock from the abiding grip of "B" Company, the present holders.

The first ties for the inter-company tug-o'-war competition will take place about the end of the month, but owing to the final tie not taking place till sometime next month we defer any description of the pulls until our next issue. "B" and "H" Companies are the favourites.

The annual inter-company physical drill competition for Captain Moulton-Barrett's Shield will also come off early next month.

The shooting shield will not change hands this year, not that changes are of frequent occurrence, or that a change was thought probable. Oh dear, no, what we mean is that owing to some companies firing the old and others the new course and there being no means of comparison, the commanding officer decided that "A" Company would still retain possession.

* * * * *

The circulation of our centenary number was nearly seventeen hundred copies; the record, if we mistake not. It is but fair to mention however that every man serving in the battalion obtained a copy as a souvenir, thereby accounting for upwards of nine hundred copies. The prints of Colonel Campbell's photo, and the officers and sergeants' groups were so highly appreciated that if it were not for the question of expense we would issue a print monthly. To do so however would mean raising the price of the paper to 3 annas and to this our readers might object.

* * * * *

By an unfortunate error we had forgotten to mention in our last issue that the late Lieutenant-Colonel D. Tyrie Laing, who was killed a few months ago near Lindley, formerly belonged to the NINETY-THIRD. After attaining the rank of Sergeant he accompanied a draft to join the Ninety-First, then in South Africa, and subsequently settled there. On the outbreak of the Matabele War he received his commission in one of the mounted corps and soon won distinction and promotion. He had only recently been promoted Lieutenant-Colonel from the rank of Major.

Colonel Laing who belonged to Forfarshire has left a mother to mourn the loss of a gallant son, to whom, on behalf of all ranks of the battalion, we offer our deepest sympathy. Not a few have risen from the ranks of the NINETY-THIRD to honours and distinctions, but we feel sure that none have ever deserved them more. His life has added lustre to the glory of the regiment he was cradled in and adds one more name to the list of heroes for succeeding generations of the battalion to honour.

* * * * *

In the South African Honours List contained in the London Gazette of April 19th are to be found the names of several officers who wear the Sutherland Tartan. Lieut.-Colonel Hilson is rewarded with a C. B., Major Cavendish with the C. M. G. and Captain Vallancy with the D. S. O., while Major Urmston and Captain and Brevet Major D. Henderson have been promoted Brevet Lieut.-Colonels.

The rewards given are for services in South Africa up to the 29th November 1900 (the day on which Field-Marshal Lord Roberts handed over the command), but we have no doubt that a few more will get rewards in due course.

* * * * * *

To the kindness of Major Middleton of Bardowie we are indebted for further particulars regarding the late Sergeant John Mackay, notice of whose death appears on another page. Major Middleton writes—

The Reverend Mr. Joass, Minister of Golspie, writes to me—

"The good old soldier was overcome by years, but remained clear in mind and strong in faith to the last, when he passed away in his sleep, apparently without pain."

He leaves behind him a grand character for the young soldiers of the present day to copy.

His wife was a clever woman and, as a nurse, came often under the notice of Miss Nightingale.

She predeceased the Sergeant by ten years.

Yours truly,

ALFRED H. MIDDLETON,

Hon. Pres., 93rd Highrs. Association.

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Recruits.

—o—

OH yes. I have been a recruit. We have all been recruits at one time or another, and we have most of us, I think, come to the conclusion that once in a life-time is quite a sufficient strain on the nerves.

There are, of course, some people who are inclined to think otherwise.

Some men in fact seem to have a most violent fancy for becoming recruits not only once but numbers of times. I don't know why, but it's a fact all the same.

I remember once, when passing Poverty Corner, being tackled by a renowned drinker. After an interesting conversation as to how much water I thought had been mixed with the beer (he felt quite certain that it was either 80 or 90 per cent.), he volunteered me the information that he had enlisted no less than seven different times!

No, he wasn't joking. A man is above joking when half his hair is gone by the board and he has to join the Rechabites to get rid of the—excuse me—"rats!"

So I was conveniently seized with a violent fit of coughing and mildly suggested that the winds in the hills were very draughty.

His conversation became confidential, he seemed to feel that I sympathised with him—but I got rid of him, though of course I shall never see that chip again.

Now, only think of it! Seven times a recruit. What an awful ass that man must have been!

I could honestly swear to it that once is quite enough for any mortal with an ounce of self-respect.

The only apparent reason I can find to adapt to his case is that he must have wandered heroically round testing the percentage of water wherewith these seven different regiments doctored their beer.

Some people have such a peculiar way of doing things.

Just take, for instance, the manner in which some fellows enlist.

I do not mean the swagger don't-care-a-hang class or the old stager, but the delightfully innocent run-away-from-mother youth, pathetically out at the elbows, with a pinched wan face that betokens a ravenous but self-respecting hunger.

He slouches briskly down the street towards the barrack gate with the firm intention of waltzing inside, but his heart leaves him just as he arrives outside it, and he glides regretfully past it for some ten or twenty yards when he stops and comes to the conclusion that he is very hungry.

In a fit of desperation he turns back again and makes another gallant attempt.

For fully half-an-hour he wanders up and down opposite that gate until the butcher's lads and greengrocer's boy over the way lay bets together as to whether he is training for a walking match or a disguised Frenchman villainously desirous of throwing a dynamite bomb into the barracks; and he arouses strong suspicions in the mind of the policeman on the beat.

The would-be soldier is in the last throes of agony and he comes to the absurd conclusion that everybody is looking at him. This, combined with the pangs of hunger necessitate immediate action. A brilliant thought strikes him. From his trouser's pocket he produces a dirty dog-eared envelope.

It's dirtyness is a mere matter of detail; it will give him the official appearance any way of being there on business.

He dashes enthusiastically inside, and being of an awkward nature, naturally collides with the sentry, whose language becomes very English indeed.

He has a long argument with the fat Colour-Sergeant he meets just inside who is not qnite sure whether to recommend the Cavalry or Artillery and seeing in the unfortunate no possible likelihood of a "wet," hands him over to another fat Colour-Sergeant, whose special abilities seem to be in the Infantry line, as he drags his capture into the presence of the Doctor with as little delay as possible.

I should like to be an army doctor at a recruiting base. You know, I have often thought what little need they have to attend a theatre, when they get so much amusement *gratis*. Imagine a long row of miserable mortals dancing and hopping up and down, bending and twisting into the most absurd positions, and as though that were not enough, getting large lumps knocked off them. Perhaps the knocking is a kind of accompaniment to the bending and hopping. At any rate it is of vital importance as an illustration of what a recruit has to suffer.

And yet, unfortunate young soldier, you are like a young bear, with all your troubles to come and a long time in which to meet them!

Some idiot of a poet once said, so I was always taught to believe, "every cloud has a silver lining",—of course, if it is possible to say anything silly, the best man for the job is a poet.

Here is an instance.

Anybody who knows, will acknowledge that a drill instructor is a decided cloud on a recruit's horizon, but nobody in his sober senses will tell me that there is such a thing as a "silver lining" attached to him.

As a rule it is quite the reverse, and woe betide the pupil who objects to go bail at dinner time for his morning's misdeeds.

There are, I think, almost as many different classes or specimens of recruits as there are hairs on a cat's back.

Some, though few indeed, are luckily possessed of such physique as absolutely defies the withering sarcasms of the instructor. But their less fortunate comrades suffer untold agonies.

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An instructor's especial qualification is, as a rule, what is known as "gas".

The more "gas"—the merrier.

How those recruits tremble!

One is told that it is an impossibility for him to close his heels for his knees. Another is surprised to learn that he carries his little brother on his back, when he could have sworn an oath that he never had such a thing in his life as a little brother. A third discovers that he possesses what the instructor is pleased to satirically term a "tea garden walk," whilst perhaps another who has read "bloods" and "cow-boy" yarns is surprised when attempting to literally carry out the instruction, "For—sake, do a buck up!" by playing leap-frog with himself, to find himself escorted to the home of all adherents of true British discipline, the guard-room.

And that reminds me. What a dream of terror is the rookie's first guard.

Although properly posted on the front gate—he could, for the first few minutes, no more tell you how he got there than he could fly to the room, and he is probably inclined to look for the nearest way of escape. When he realizes his position, he tries, in vain, to swell out his chest (no chest appears), he comes to the conclusion that he has at least half-a-dozen pairs of hands and a couple of indomitable fleas begin to make a skating rink of his back.

Just at that minute he sees the picquet making way for something at the gate. Concluding the something to be the much dreaded Colonel, he zealously presents arms to the dust cart!

Unfortunate youth! Only sheer indifference will live down your comrades' mockery! Heed them not, they have done worse things than that in days gone by.

Somebody has said "as the training—so the man."

If this is the case,—army training must be peculiarly characteristic. No two men are morally speaking alike and yet all are trained in the same grooves.

Spring poets, wild long-haired individuals in search of copy and innocent mortals whose characters they can pull to pieces generally float about places of public resort for their victims. But they are out of it altogether.

They should join the army and they would be able to study "character" to their heart's content.

Of course a poet's idea of "character" is absurd.

With him a bandy-legged man is an individual whose pedestrial organs undulate in Grecian bends, and a pimple on the nose is an excrescence on the proboscis. As far as we are concerned, poets have done soldiers an infinity of harm with their asinine braying and nonsensical twaddle.

A newly enlisted recruit with a fortnight's service could give them a few tips on genuine "character" that all their long hair and "did she fall or was she pushed" appearance cannot grant them.

There is the man who argues the point, the man who doesn't argue the point; the man who has a hobby and gives everybody else the horrors. The man who uses everybody else's brushes and never by any chance puts them back. The man who swears in public and doesn't care who hears him; the man who doesn't swear and likes to be thought an angel, but tells "Tim" what an idiot, "Wally" is and of course *vice versâ*, when the "idiot" is out of the way.

There is the man who drinks and never has a pice, but who is certain of the "night-guard."

And of course there is the "Thumper" whose legs are never properly "dressed" and who gorges his inner man with buns at his brother "Thumper's" expenses.

There are some glorious specimens of humanity. Men—their name is "Legion"—who live a steady soldierly life, who shrink from the public eye with in-born modesty. Among these the recruit finds a home, and sooner or later, according to the company he keeps, his character becomes grafted in the grooves of military discipline till he either becomes a good or, we hope not any way, a bad soldier.

CAVEAT ACTOR.

———: o :———

Two Imperial Edicts.

—o—

General Yeh, the Chinese General who outmanœuvred the Japanese at Yashan, and succeeded in withdrawing his troops northwards through two hundred miles of hostile country, and effecting a junction with the main body of the Chinese army at Pingyang, has had his reward. An Imperial edict of August 28th, after remarking that his "bravery was equal to his faults" and that therefore "he need not be turned over to the Board for determination of a penalty," orders that Yeh be presented with "a white gem peacock-feather-holder, a small knife, a pair of large purses, and a couple of tinder boxes." What officer would not fight bravely with the chance of such recognition, a pocket-knife for valour, or a tinder box for distinguished conduct in the field? Another Imperial edict, by the way, supplies a possible clue to the rout of Chinese at Pingyang. It is dated the 29th August, and states that "Her Majesty the Empress Dowager, being most solicitous about the health of the armies now stationed at Pingyang, which have to endure the heat and various other hardships in fighting battles, desires that 40 chests of preventive pills be handed to Li Hung Chang, who will forward them with the greatest despatch to General Yeh for distribution among the armies." The "armies" may have partaken too freely of the Empress Dowager's bounty on the night before the battle or the pills, like the Chinese ammunition, may have got mixed.—*Pioneer.*

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Stirling Notes.

From the "Bridge of Allan Reporter" we cull the following highly interesting account of the progress of the movement on foot for the erection of a Soldiers' Home, in Stirling, to the memory of the officers and men of the regiment who have fallen in South Africa. The dinner was held on the 29th and the concerts on the 29th and 30th March.

REGIMENTAL DINNER AT STIRLING CASTLE.

On Tuesday evening, Colonel Trotter and officers entertained to dinner, in the Mess, a number of friends who had lent valuable assistance in connection with the movement for the establishment of a Soldiers' Home in Stirling. Among those present were :—Colonel P. D. Trotter, Commanding 91st Regimental District; Captain Mackenzie, Adjutant, 3rd Batt., A. and S. H.; Captain Dundas, D. A.A.G., Scottish District; Captain Campbell, 4th Batt., A. and S. H.; Major Sands, Staff Paymaster, Stirling Castle; Major Oliver, A.O.D., Forthside; Captain Henderson, Adjutant, 4th (Stirlingshire) V. B., A. and S.H.; Lieutenant Cox, 2nd Batt., A. and S.H.; Captain Denholm, Quarter-Master, Stirling Castle; Captain Hay, 3rd Batt., East Surrey Regiment; Lieutenant Mackenzie, 3rd Batt., A. and S.H.; Colonel Sir Thomas Glen Coats, Bart., 2nd (Renfrewshire)[V.B., A. and S.H.; Colonel King of Antermony; Colonel Ewing Crawford of Auchentroig; Colonel Morton, 4th V.B., A. and S.H.; Major Simpson, 4th V.B., A. and S. H.; Sheriff Buntine, Provost Thomson, Rev. George Mure Smith, Chaplain to the Garrison; Rev. C. L. Coldwell, The Parsonage, Stirling; Mr. J. W. Campbell, Bank of Scotland; Mr. Dalrymple Duncan of Meiklewood; Mr. Cowan Finlay, Albert Place; Mr. J. Jenkins, solicitor; Mr. Monteath, Wright Park, Kippen; Mr. George Murdoch, Cliffside; Mr. John Paton, Viewforth; Mr. Renwick, Langgarth; Mr. J. B. Richardson, Pitgorno; Mr. P. Welsh, Springwood. The following invited guests were unable to be present :—His Grace the Duke of Montrose, The Earl of Eglinton, Lord Blythswood; Hon. James Burns, Wemyss House; Sir Alan Seton Steuart of Touch, Bart.; Sir W. Orr Ewing, Bart.; Sir Robert Dundas of Arniston; Colonel Murray of Polmaise; Colonel Hare of Blairlogie; Colonel Wilson of Bannockburn; Captain Moulton-Barrett, Edinburgh; Colonel Beath, C. B., R.A.M.C.; Sheriff Tyndall Johnstone, Redcar; Rev. J. P. Lang, The Manse, Stirling; Very Rev. Canon Smith; Mr. Wm. Forbes of Calendar; Mr. A. E. Orr Ewing of Ballikinrain; Mr. J. A. Harvie Brown of Dunipace; Mr. Jas. Couper of Craigforth; Mr. A. G. Graham of Carbrook Lodge; and Mr. J. L. Robinson of Goldoch.

In the course of the evening, after the toast of "The King" had been proposed, Colonel Trotter said—I cannot allow this occasion to pass—an occasion on which I and the officers of the Castle will always look back with interest and pleasure—without alluding to the circumstances which have brought us all together to-night. Since I succeeded to the command I have had always very much at heart the formation at Stirling of a Soldiers' Home. I need not trouble you with the advantages of such an institution, as I have already, in two circulars I issued to the public, and also on various occasions in speaking on the subject, explained, though very feebly, the great benefit such a Home would be. I have tried from time to time to elaborate this scheme, and last year it received a stimulus, though a very mournful one, in the necessity which arose for some memorial to the officers and men who had lost their lives gloriously, though we all hope not vainly, in the service of their Queen; and also to those whom, I fear, may still succumb to disease and sickness in their duty to the King. The erection, therefore, of a building which would unite the advantages of a Home with the characteristics of a memorial, appeared to me and others a very practicable undertaking. Funds came quickly in, and I hope that the house we have acquired in Friar Street will eventually not be an unworthy memorial to Colonels Hannay and Goff, Major Robinson, Lieutenants Hunter, King, and M'Laren, and many non-commissioned officers and men of the regiment who have found their grave in South Africa. The sum already collected amounts to-day to £1,216, and we have also promises of annual subscriptions to the amount of at least £70 per annum—a yearly income which I hope may be much increased. (Applause.) Our very grateful thanks are due to all the donors, so many of whom we are glad to welcome here to-night, and also to those whose kind and gratuitous services have been such a help in furthering a scheme which will not only benefit our men, but will (if things go on prospering as at present) give to Stirling a lasting institution which has long been wanted here, and with which very few of our chief Scottish towns are unprovided. (Applause.)

The band of the 1st Battalion, under the leadership of Bandmaster Hill, and the pipers of the 3rd and 4th Battalions, under Pipe-Major Mackay, played selections during the proceedings, which were of a most enjoyable nature.

GRAND MILITARY CONCERTS.

Yesterday afternoon the band of the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, under Band-Master Hill, gave a delightful performance in the Albert Hall, Stirling, in aid of the Soldiers' Home to be erected in Stirling as a memento to the officers and men of the regiment who have fallen in South Africa. The programme included a solo on the organ by Dr. Allum, while Lance-Corporal Walsh sang two songs with taste and spirit. Those who were present enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon.

To-night another performance will be given in the Albert Hall, beginning at 7-45, for which a most attractive programme has been drawn up. Several instrumental solos are interspersed with the concerted pieces; Lance-Corporal Walsh will contribute a couple of songs; and Sergeant-Instructor Dibbs will give an Indian club exhibition. The object of the concert is one that requires no commendation to our readers. Suffice it to say that it is not every day they have the opportunity of listening to a high-class military band, and when one is presented to them so near to their own doors, they should avail themselves of it.

A few mornings ago a lady asked her husband, Major ——, to call in at the dairy when passing to order some new-laid eggs.

After demurring for a bit, the Major yielded, and having given his promise nothing on earth would have kept him from fulfilling it.

A couple of hours later the Major called at the shop in question, quite a small and unimportant establishment in a back street. Two or three minutes passed; then, as no one came to attend to him, the Major gave a gentle knock on the counter. This had no effect, so a smart double rap was given; when a curly headed youngster put his head round the doorpost and lisped out, "Father's a-comin'."

By the time "father" arrived the Major was boiling with rage. "What the deuce do you mean by keeping me here all this time?" he roared.

"I am very sorry, sir," replied the man, "but you see it's like this: you're the very first Major I've had in my shop, and as there appeared to be a lot of people passing by I thought what a good advertisement you was a-standing there!"

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.

THAT it's "pit doon that steak."

That it's only a dream.

That pyjamies are a' the go jist noo.

That they're very fashionable in a certain locality.

That thumbs the word

That the peawallah kens his dreel.

That "Pihla" snaffled the clock.

That a "chokidar" wi' a cockney accent is no go.

That where is my Norah.

That she wis' na at the dance.

That it can play the drum and the chanter.

That it would like a change frae the Cameron men.

That it hes been getting it for breakfast, dinner and tea.

That Nap is the makings o' a guid Commissary-General.

That pipers are at a discoont in teen battery.

That a melodeon makes guid music on the march.

That "B" Battery are getting a big new shelf ready.

That the European cooks hae arrived.

That is there ony mair tae slew is the latest.

———: o :———

Death of a Crimean Veteran in Golspie.

—o—

SERGEANT John Mackay, one of the oldest inhabitants of Golspie, died at his residence on Saturday last, the 9th inst. He was born in the Parish of Farr, but when he was quite young his father and family removed to Rogart. Mackay when a young man was full of the military enthusiasm so widely spread in the Highlands at that time and went to Inverness, where he enlisted in the 93rd Highlanders on the 4th of March 1837, being 20 years and six months of age at that time. He served in the army nearly 22 years in various parts of the world, chiefly Canada, and throughout the whole of the Crimean war, in which he greatly distinguished himself, and for which he received medals commemorative of the battles of Alma, Balaclava, and the siege of Sebastopol. He also got a medal for long service and good conduct, and the Turkish medal, 1855. After obtaining his discharge he served for 30 years as gatekeeper at Dunkeld for the Duke of Atholl, by whom he and his wife were great favourites. Mackay was well liked by his comrades and had the reputation of being the strongest man in the regiment and a famous athlete. While in Canada he performed what was then considered a great feat of passing beneath the falls of Niagara. He was married to Dorothy M'Beath, daughter of the celebrated blind piper, who itinerated the country, led by a boy. His wife accompanied him through the Crimean campaign. She was an excellent woman and rendered great service as a nurse during the Crimean war. She died in 1890. Her brother was piper to the second Duke of Sutherland and was considered the best in Scotland. Sergeant Mackay was admitted an out-pensioner of the Royal Hospital at Chelsea on the 30th November, 1858, on a pension of 1s. 2½d. a day. He came to Golspie twelve years ago. He was an elder of the Established Church, but of late years was so frail that he was not able to attend church regularly. Sergeant Mackay was a most intelligent man and beguiled old and young by recounting stories and anecdotes of his life, and of the several stirring events which he witnessed.

THE FUNERAL.

The remains of Sergeant Mackay were yesterday buried in the Golspie Cemetery with military honours. The S. H. R. V. and C. V. A. Companies under the command of Colonel Morrison, Captain Macaulay and Captain Nicol formed a splendid display, and lent a deep impression to the procession. At the house funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Joass. On the coffin being taken out of the house it was immediately covered with the Union Jack by the hands of the volunteers. The procession started a few minutes after two o'clock and headed by a band of five pipers playing the beautiful strains of the "Flowers of the Forest." At the house and at the entrance to the cemetery the Rifle Volunteers formed up into two lines between which the coffin was carried. Behind the volunteers the general public marched in pairs. When the coffin was lowered the Rev. Mr. Grant, Dornoch, Chaplain to the volunteers, conducted a short service at the grave, and the volunteers fired three volleys, Pipe-Major Macdonald playing "Lochaber no more." There was a large attendance of the general public. The scene was a most impressive one, and it was generally remarked that the beautiful formation of the volunteers and the exactitude of the arrangements were all that could be desired. The slow march with arms reversed with the blending of the red coats and brightly burnished helmets glittering in the sun was a sight which made many of the spectators shed tears. All along the street blinds were drawn and business was suspended, evidences of the high esteem in which the deceased was held.

From the Northern Times.

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Football.

Once more the curtain has been rung down for the season of *fitba*. This latter season has, we may say, been of more interest than its predecessor, in that it has had a glorious uncertainty about it; which was the very synonym of that in which "G" looked like winning from the very start. As was generally expected, a replay between "B" and "F" was necessary; these two tieing with 10 points each. Though the game was anything but that of a brilliant character, still, "B" seemed to have the full measure of their opponents, and maintained their lead of a goal to the end of the game, which secured to them the desired, though dilapidated, trophy. "A" are the wooden spoonists, a result which appeared certain from the beginning. Among the most prolific goal scorers, Clarke has now to share his place of honour with O'Connor; though the first-named player put a goal on for his side against an invisible team of "A" which is thought by many ought not to be taken into account.

Before detailing the last few matches of the league a brief retrospect of the Football Clock and its winners will serve to freshen the memories of those not intimately acquainted with the history of that trophy.

The Clock which was designed by Captain Urmston (now Lieutenant-Colonel) and Mr. Tweedie, (now Captain) was presented to the regiment by Lieutenant-Colonel Mills in the early part of the 1888-89 season, for the purpose of encouraging inter-company football which

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previous to that time was in a very low state. The first two seasons were played on the cup-tie system, or what is more familiarly known as the knock-out game. The first year it was won by "F," who beat "C" in the final by 5 goals to 2; their hardest match being that with "B," who was not disposed of until at the third time of asking. The following year "H" Company became the proud possessors of the coveted trophy after a drawn battle with "A," the latter meeting with defeat in the replayed game by 2 goals to 1. In the season of 1890-91 the league system was introduced and has since been adhered to. "A" Company, who had made so gallant a stand in the previous year, annexed the clock with 6 wins and a draw, beating "F" Company by two points who obtained 5 wins, 1 draw and suffered one defeat. The scene of the next year's struggle was at Umballa, where "A" had to part with the clock to "C" Company, who in turn handed it over for safe keeping to "G," but not without a hard fight between the last-named team and "F" taking place through tying. Three matches were played before a final result was arrived at. The first game was won by "F" by 2 goals to 1; but a replay was ordered by "G" lodging a protest which, ending in a draw, left the two teams on the same footing as before. The third game "G" won by a narrow margin of one goal after a well-contested struggle. The clock was then held in turns by "B," "E" (beating "F" by 1-0 on a replay through tying), "F," "F" again (beating "G" on replay by 1-0 in the second match after tying), G, "B" (beating "F" on replay after tying by 1-0). From this small history it may be seen that "F" has had the lion's share of its keep; with "A," "G" and "B," running for second place. Before closing, a word about its condition will not be out of place. The time-honoured trophy is in a sad condition, and wants a thorough overhaul with more brass studs placed on it, the present number being insufficient,—or else purchase a new one. The last stud was used to impress the letter F on, and no more can be found for either G or B.

With the short interval in hand the teams should not allow themselves to rust but should promote healthy rivalry by playing outsiders in friendlies at the popular game; or better still, the *authorities that be ought to inaugurate a five-a-side competition* on the knock-out system, with two teams per company (each representing the right or left half) making a total of sixteen; or again, with the band, drums, and pipes, a grand total of eighteen. Some small badge could be given to the winners and a slightly inferior one to the winners up which would not exceed a total of Rs. 50.

THE LEAGUE.

"*B*" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company*, *6th April* 1901.—Play ruled slightly in favour of "G" at the outset which resulted in a goal for them shot by McAulay. "G" maintained their lead up to the interval, and had a chance of augmenting, but Wilson mulled Maslin's pass. "B" in the next half played up strongly and wore down their opponents gradually. Houston relieved the pressure by an excellent run, but failed to obtain another goal. Gordon and Mossman now changed places with advantage to their side, for shortly afterwards the first-named player shot a lovely goal 25 yards out. "G" made an excellent attempt to again secure the lead, but were pressed back and had another goal registered against them by Johnson, who, however, was ruled off-side. "B" came up again after the kick, and might have had a goal had not Johnson made a mess of Gordon's splendid cross. The pressure was still kept up on "G's" goal, which had another narrow escape from a hard drive by Hendry. "G" now broke away, but a free kick against Houston for back charging brought the ball back to their own citadel again, where Ellis had to save a cracker from Hendry. Foul against "B" brought relief to "G," but only for a short time, when the ball was again hovering dangerously around their goal. Shortly afterwards through a mistake by McKay in giving a back pass to Ellis the goal was left defenceless, of which Morrison took advantage and drove No. 2 home for "B" amid indescribable enthusiasm. "B" again attacked but another opportunity was lost by Johnson in not making better use of Jamieson's pass. After the goal kick the leather travelled up to "B's" goal, but "G's" further efforts were futile as the whistle shortly afterwards sounded with a win for "B" by 2 goals to "G's" 1.

"*B*" *Company.*—*Goal*, Carter; *Backs*, Scott, Kerr; ½ *Backs*, Gordon, Lt. Herbert Hudgton; *Forwards*, Johnson, Hendry, Jamieson, Morrison, Mossman.

"*G*" *Company.*—*Goal*, Ellis; *Backs*, Mullholland, McKay; ½ *Backs*, Brown, Benson Pullar; *Forwards*, Wilson, McAulay, Houston, Maslin, Gilmour.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*F*" *Company*, *8th April* 1901.—This proved a very one-sided game as the result shows. "F" immediately attacked and within 4 minutes from the start O'Connor receiving a pass from the right wing banged home the first for "F," which was further added to by another from Auchinvole. "A" seldom proving dangerous, as "F's" half backs were much too strong for them. With 5 minutes to half-time Fox put on a third for "F." The second period was merely a repetition of the first, two more goals coming from Auchinvole and O'Connor, respectively. Result "F," 5 "A," *nil*.

"*F*" *Company.*—*Goal*, Anderson; *Backs*, Wallace, McNie; ½ *Backs*, Edwards, McGowan, Watson; *Forwards*, O'Connor, Moore, Auchinvole, Fox, Turnbull.

"*A*" *Company.*—*Goal*, Glass; *Backs*, Hendry, Park; ½ *Backs*, H. Allan, Brown, Dick; *Forwards*, Drain, McGeechan, Jones, Stewart, Quinn.

REPLAYED TIE, "B" COMPANY v. "F" COMPANY.

"B" COMPANY.

Goal.

CARTER.

KERR (Captain) SCOTT.

GORDON MOSSMAN HUDGTON.

MORRISON HENDRY

HUTTON JAMIESON JOHNSON

O'CONNOR AUCHINVOLE TURNBULL.

MOORE FOX.

WATSON (Captain) McGOWAN EDWARDS.

WALLACE McNIE.

MAYWOOD.

Goal.

"F" COMPANY.

Referee Sgt. WALLACE. *Linesmen* Ptes. MONTGOMERY, WATT.

Previous to starting the teams underwent a short lecture from Sergeant Wallace, after which Watson and Kerr tossed for position. Watson being successful, chose the south goal with a weak sun at his back, "B" defending the Treasury Goal. Jamieson kicked, off but the ball was immediately returned. Mossman then seized it and planted well towards "F's" goal, which resulted

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in a goal kick for "F." The ball was then forced to "B's" territory, but a powerful return speedily sent the sphere back again. Play was mostly midfield for a time, till a foul against Watson placed "F" again on the defensive. The siege was then raised by a free kick for "F" for a foul committed by Mossman. McNie took the kick and sent it well up to his opponents' goal which gave them an anxious five minutes of it. "B" then again resumed the offensive, but a free kick against Gordon for back charging again brought "F" relief. The blue brigade now attacked fiercely, and almost had a goal, but Kerr saved by kicking out. From the throw in the ball was again in play around "B's" goal, till Edwards in trying a pot shot placed it behind. "B" now woke up and ran down, but with no tangible result, midfield play ruled for a short time when Mossman pounced on the ball and kicked it well up the field, where Wallace in falling back to head it out of danger pushed against his goal-keeper, with the result of the ball bouncing off Maywood into the net. The goal was a lucky one and could easily have been saved had Wallace played his own game and left Maywood to play his in place of rendering his goal-keeper useless by lying so close on him. "F" now took a spell of attacking after this reverse and scored but Fox was ruled off-side. From now to the half time play was slightly in favour of "F," Wallace playing so well at back that the forwards of "B" were kept at a respectable distance.

Immediately on the whistle sounding, "F" carried the sphere down the field, but excitement and over-anxiety spoiled their efforts. The blues again maintained a pressure but relief came by O'Connor putting behind. "B" then tried forcing tactics and almost had a second goal, relief coming shortly afterwards to "F" by a free kick against Johnson. "B" pressed again, but their efforts were rendered null by the ball going behind. McNie took the kick and planted well up the field among his forwards, these five swarming around "B's" goal almost made the scores equal through Carter leaving it open; but in their excitement, they placed the leather by. The right wing lads now played strongly and held "F" at bay, relief coming by a free kick against Hendry for the off-side rule infringement. "B" again attacked but some good play by Wallace—which was the best of the afternoon—cleared his goal from danger. The ding-dong nature of the play had "B" on the defensive, when a splendid run by Hendry up the field made "F" fall back to defend their goal. Foul against Hendry once more brought "B" to act on the defence. This was not for long as Hutton running nimbly along the touch line middled nicely; Maywood spoiling his chance by kicking down the field. It was now evident to all that "B" was tiring, but they gallantly resisted all "F's" determined efforts to capture their goal, by playing a sound defensive game; though fouls were more frequent than ought to have been. Shortly afterwards the whistle sounded with "F" still attacking but with the score the same. Result: "B" 1 goal, "F" *nil*.

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE ENDING APRIL 30TH, 1901.

No.	Coys.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals. For.	Goals. Against.	Points.
1	B	7	5	2	0	13	8	10
2	F	7	5	2	0	18	6	10
3	E	7	4	2	1	11	8	9
4	G	7	3	2	2	16	8	8
5	H	7	4	3	0	5	11	8
6	C	7	3	3	1	11	5	7
7	D	7	1	5	1	5	15	3
8	A	7	0	6	1	3	20	1

N.B.—"C" scratched to "E," "D" ditto to "E" and "A" to "H" Company.

TABULATED FORM SHOWING RESULTS OF THE GAMES.

Coys.	B.	F.	E.	G.	H.	C.	D.	A.	Points.
B	...	W	W	W	L	W	L	W	10
F	L	...	W	W	W	L	W	W	10
E	L	L	...	D	W	W	W	W	9
G	L	L	D	...	W	D	W	W	8
H	W	L	L	L	...	W	W	W	8
C	L	W	Scd.	D	L	...	W	W	7
D	W	L	Scd.	L	L	L	..	D	3
A	L	L	L	L	Scd.	L	D	...	1

N.B.—W. won, L. lost, D. drawn, Scd. scratched.

GOAL SCORERS.

Eight Goals.

Clarke, "E" Coy., O'Connor, "F" Coy.

Six Goals.

Gilmour, Houston, "G" Coy.

Five Goals.

Auchinvole, "F" Coy.

Four Goals.

Hogg, "C" Coy.

Three Goals.

Kerr, "B" Coy. Gordon, "B" Coy.

Two Goals.

Mossman, Morrison, "B" Coy.; Cairns, "C" Coy. Pollock, "D" Coy.; Lieut. Forbes, McDonald, "C" Coy.; McKenzie, "D" Coy.; Fox, "F" Coy,

One Goal.

McGeechan, McAllister, "A" Coy.; Johnson, Jamieson, Hudgton, "B" Coy.; Wilson, "C" Coy.; McGregor, "D" Coy.; McLean, Montgomery, "E" Coy.; Watson, Turnbull, Moore, "F" Coy.; McAulay, "G" Coy.; McTaggart, Daly, Comrie, "H" Coy.

WINNERS OF THE FOOTBALL CLOCK.

1888-89	...	...	"F" Company.
1889-90	...	...	"H" "
1890-91	...	...	"A" "
1891-92	...	...	"C" "
1892-93	...	...	"G" "
1893-94	...	...	"B" "
1894-95	...	...	"A" "
1895-96	...	...	"E" "
1896-97-98	...	...	"F" "
1898-99	...	...	"F" "
1899-1900	...	...	"G" "
1900-01	...	...	"B" "

Mem. Owing to the regiment being on field service in 1897-98 no league took place that season.

M.

He: "I hear you attend the Oratorio Society's performances. Were you present at the 'Creation?'" She (indignantly): "I suppose you will next want to know if I sailed in Noah's Ark."

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Billiards.

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THE first of the handicaps of the present year was successfully initiated in the Corporals' room. Corporal Buchanan made the highest break of the handicap, and strange to say he made it in the beginning of his game with Silcock,—the eventual winner, and lost it. Below are given the games and results.

FIRST ROUND.

					Result.
Corpl. Gillespie	(25)	beat	Corpl. Duff	(5)	100 to 83
,, Norrie	(5)	,,	Lc.-Cpl. Stewart	(35)	100 ,, 84
Lc.-Cpl. McKenzie	(25)	,,	,, ,, McDonald	(30)	100 ,, 55
,, ,, McLuckie	(40)	,,	,, ,, Lynch	(35)	100 ,, 72
,, ,, McInnes	(40)	,,	,, ,, Youngson	(30)	100 ,, 80
Corpl Buchanan	(5)	,,	Corpl. Mahony (scratch)		100 ,, 63
Lce.-Cpl. Ellis	(10)	,,	Lc.-Cpl. Gilmour	(5)	100 ,, 72
Corpl. Blacklock	(5)	,,	,, Scott	(25)	100 ,, 92
Lce.-Cpl. Yardley	(scratch)	,,	Corpl. Sutherland	(15)	100 ,, 86
,, ,, Kelly	(scratch)	,,	Lc.-Cpl. Campbell	(30)	100 ,, 65
,, ,, Risdon	(35)	,,	,, ,, Cole	(25)	100 ,, 90
,, ,, Allan	(10)	,,	Corpl. Jamieson	(15)	100 ,, 43
,, ,, Wilson	(20)	,,	,, ,, Inglis	(scratch)	100 ,, 96
,, ,, Silcock	(5)	,,	,, ,, McCrae	(35)	100 ,, 65
,, ,, Montgomery	(10)	,,	Lc.-Cpl. Bertram	(40)	100 ,, 99

SECOND ROUND.

Lc.-Cpl. Silcock	beat	Cpl. Gillespie	100 to 87	
,, Kelly	,,	Lc. Cpl. Risdon	100 ,, 76	
,, Blacklock	,,	,, ,, McInnes	100 ,, 80	
,, ,, Ellis	,,	,, ,, McLuckie	100 ,, 62	
,, Buchanan	,,	,, ,, Allan	100 ,, 96	
,, ,, McKenzie	,,	,, ,, Wilson	100 ,, 97	
,, ,, Yardley	,,	Corpl. Norrie	100 ,, 95	

Lce.-Corpl. Montgomery a bye.

THIRD ROUND.

Cpl. Yardley	beat	Lc.-Cpl. Ellis	100 to 88	
Lc.-Cpl. Silcock	,,	,, ,, Buchanan	100 ,, 81	
,, Blacklock	,,	,, ,, McKenzie	100 ,, 95	
,, Kelly	,,	,, ,, Montgomery	100 ,, 95	

SEMI-FINAL.

Cpl. Yardley	beat	Cpl. Blacklock	100 to 69
Lce. Silcock	,,	,, Kelly	100 ,, 79

FINAL.

Lc.-Cpl. Silcock	beat	Cpl. Yardley	200 to 133

Best break. Cpl. Buchanan, 25.

BILLIARD MARCH.

BANDSMAN E. CHIDLEY *v.* BANDSMAN A. MORRISON.

A Billiard match between these two players took place in the A. T. A. billiard room on the 27th instant for a small stake aside. The game which was one of a hundred up proved to be an easy win for Morrison, who led from the start and finally beat his opponent by 41 points. Result: Morrison 100, Chidley 59.

E. M.

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Temperance Topics.

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THERE is scarcely anything of note to chronicle this month, with the exception of the General Secretary's visit to us on Tuesday, the 9th instant. The reverend gentleman gave a most able address illustrating the evils which the young soldier on his arrival from home is subjected to; and asked our members to give him practical encouragement, by dissuading the *young fry* from participating in the alluring influences of the boozing school. The Colonel, who was in the chair, ably seconded the speaker; and a very pleasant meeting was brought to a close, by the award of a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Bateson.

We still retain a place in the first class; with a total close upon 500, giving a percentage of 50. The room is attractive as ever, and, with the billiard room, and a little assistance from Corpl. Sutherland, our Secretary, and Pte. Wainwright, the barman, we ought to have as good, if not a better season than last year.

E. M.

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Keep your eyes open.

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GENERAL MAURICE'S ADVICE.

SIR Frederick Maurice, the General Officer Commanding the Woolwich District, has issued the following order to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men under his command:—

"The attention of the General Officer Commanding is almost daily directed to cases in which men of all branches of the service have failed to use their eyes. Buckets are hanging up all round a room, and the non-commissioned officer in charge at the moment when they are required, has never observed that they were there. A policeman is asked why he is allowing some irregularity, and replies, with evident candour, 'I beg your pardon, Sir, I did not see.' The variety of similar incidents that occur constantly is so great, and represents a blindness so universal and alarming, that the General Officer Commanding feels it necessary to impress upon every Officer in the garrison the fact that, by the wording of his commission and by the custom of the Service, it is his duty to train men under him in whatsoever it is necessary to their efficiency in war. For this purpose they are always on duty, and have no right to omit any opportunity which may present itself for furthering his Majesty's Service in this way. Under the present conditions of warfare there is scarcely anything which renders a soldier so dangerous to his comrades and himself, not merely so useless but so mischievous, as an incapacity for using his eyes. He cannot do so in war if he is not habitually trained to do so in peace. Scarcely any incident of daily life may not be made to contribute either to blindness or to seeing. If a man were physically blind he would be discharged the Service as useless to it. A man who has two good eyes, but does not see with them, is a much more dangerous soldier than a blind man. The General Officer Commanding therefore requires that all commanding officers shall direct the attention of all the officers under them to this most important point. Subaltern officers in their lectures to the men will select illustrations from war showing its importance. They will find plenty in the last war, even if they are not as familiar as they ought to make themselves with the past history of war, which is full of them. 'I did not see it' is habitually to be regarded as a confession of incapacity for soldiering, no matter how commonplace and trivial the incident to which it applies. Officers in daily routine, and when nominally off duty, will take every opportunity of insisting upon men using their eyes. Finally, the General Officer Commanding appeals personally to every officer and non-commissioned officer in the garrison not to treat this as a formal order to be carried out in a routine fashion, but as an effort to destroy that habit of not marking which some fine day may, if they do not assist him in extirpating it, involve themselves in disaster and the country in dishonour. The General Officer Commanding expects to find that, at all events, no soldier shall amidst our fleeting garrison be in Woolwich a month without having been made to realize the importance which he attaches to this matter."

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Ninety-third Calendar for June 1901.

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1 S. Battalion 1,175 strong, fully armed, and equipped for field service—Curragh, 1878.

2 S. Lieut.-Gen. William Sutherland, d. Colonel, 1862.

3 M. Nos. 3, 7 and 8 Companies under Lieut.-Col. Adrian Hope, emb. Plymouth on "*Belleisle*" for China, 1857. Lieut.-General Alex. Fisher Macintosh K. H. Colonel, 1862.

4 Tu. Col. George Johnstone, Major-General, 1814. Lieut.-General Sir Thos. Hislop, Bart., G. C. B., to 51st Foot, 1822. Lieut.-Genl. Sir Hudson Lowe, K. C. B., Colonel, 1822. Head-quarters and remainder Companies under Lieut.-Col. Leith Hay, reviewed at Gosport by Her Majesty. Lieut.-Genl. William Sutherland, Colonel, 1860.

5 W.
6 Th.
7 F.
8 S.

9 S. Re-embarked Yanikale for Balaclava, 1855.

10 M. Attack on the Political Officer's escort at Maizar, Waziristan, 1897.

11 Tu.
12 W.

13 Th. Sailed with 1st Division to Varna, 1854.

14 F. Portsmouth to Woking, 1853.

15 S. Disembarked Plymouth from Cape, 1814; strength 52 sergeants, 22 drummers, 944 men. Landed Varna, 1854. Aberdeen to Edinburgh Castle, 1871.

16 S Re-embarked Crimea on H. M. S. "*Sidon*" for England, 1856; and Crimea War. Head-quarters, embarked Portsmouth on s.s. "*Mauritius*" for China, 1857.

17 M.

18 Tu. First assault on Sebastopol, 1855 (93rd in position on Woronzoff Rd.) Orders to mobilise for Tochi Expedition received. Nowshera, 1897.

19. W.
20. Th.

21. F. Thermometer registered 119½ in heavily shaded verandah of officers' quarters, Nowshera, 1896. Detachment from Cherat rejoined head-quarters for Tochi F. F., 1897.

22 S.
23 S.

24 M. Royal Review at Windsor before Her Majesty and the Shah of Persia, 1813.

25 Tu.

26 W. Inspection by General Ellis, Commanding Peshawar District, before proceeding on Field Service, 1897.

27 Th. Left Nowshera, in two troop trains for Kushalgarh, 1897; strength 775. John Haslock Campbell, Lieut.-Col., 1899.

28 F. Detrained Kushalgarh, 1897; left same evening for Edwardesabad.

29 S.
30 S.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant.—No. 4628, Lance-Sergeant G. Ballantine, "E" Company, dated 1st April 1901.

To be Corporals.—No. 5945, Lance-Corporal A. McRae, "H" Company, dated 1st April 1901; No. 4058, Lance-Corporal J. Buchanan, "F" Company, dated 1st April 1901.

PAY OF RANK AND ESTABLISHMENT.

To be Paid Lance-Sergeant.—No. 4590, Corporal J. Watson, "F" Company, dated 1st April, 1901.

To be Paid Lance-Corporals.—No. 5868, Lance-Corporal J. Gilmour, "G" Company, dated 1st April 1901; No. 5784, Lance-Corporal W. Chapman, "E" Company, dated 1st April 1901; No. 6143, Lance-Corporal J. Robinson, "A" Company, dated 1st April 1901.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Sergeant Cook.—No. 4535, Sergeant J. R. Barrett, "G" Company, dated 1st April 1901.

To be Pay Sergeant, Convalescent Section.—No. 3006 Sergeant J. Ewan, "E" Company, dated 12th March 1901.

To be Drill Sergeant.—No. 3775, Sergeant G. Forbes, "F" Company, dated 26th April 1901.

To be Head Clerk, Rohilkund District Office, with the rank of Color-Sergeant.—No. 5601, Lance-Sergeant E. A. Daniel, "B" Company, dated 4th April 1901.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5378, Private C. Campbell and No. 6295, Private W. Alder, "H" Company, dated 13th April 1901.

To be Assistant Warder in the Garrison Provost Cells—No. 5868, Lance-Corporal J. Gilmour, "G" Company.

To be School Assistant.—No. 5048, Lance-Corporal T. Hamill, "A" Company.

To be Assistant Instructor in Gymnastics.—No. 5690, Lance-Corporal P. Brisland, "G" Company.

To be Acting Piper.—No. 7611, Boy R. S. Gunn, "D" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 2d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 5168, Private R. McCallum.

"B" Company.

No. 4752, Pte. T. Blythe. | No. 5429, Pte. J. Campbell.

No. 5441, Private J. McIntyre.

"E" Company.

No. 5408, Lc.-Cpl. A. Ewing. | No. 4771, Pte. J. Oliver.

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"G" Company.

No. 5413, Pte. R. Douther. | No. 5340, Pte. M. W. Fogg.

"H" Company.

No. 4698, Private J. McIntyre.

At 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 3980, Pte. W. McMaster. | No. 6572, Pte. W. Harrison.
„ 5189, „ H. Allan. | „ 6849, „ J. Allan.

No. 5685, Private F. Morrison.

"C" Company.

No. 5099, Pte. R. Forrest. | No. 5511, Pte. A. Jack.

No. 4563, Private A. Adams.

"F" Company.

No. 4800, Pte. W. Moran. | No. 5438, Pte. T. Brown.

No. 5807, Private C. Nevin.

"G" Company.

No. 5638, Piper J. Clarke. | No. 5323, Pte. H. L. Creed.
„ 4573, Pte. G. Murphy. | „ 5546, „ J. McLachlan.

"H" Company.

No. 5918, Pte. W. Hughes. | No. 5944, Pte. D. Halley.

No. 5949, Private J. McGillivray.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted First Class Certificates as Instructors in Gymnastics and Swordsmanship.

No. 5874, Lance-Corporal A. Thomson "G" Company.
„ 5690, „ „ P. Brisland, "G" „

Granted a Certificate qualifying for the appointment of Pioneer Sergeant.

No. 6143, Lance-Corporal J. Robinson, "A" Company.

Passed Lower Standard Urdu, Part I :—

No. 6812, Private R. C. Paton, "F" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service :—

No. 4344, Bandsman J. Burns, "D" Company.

To complete twelve years' service with the Colours :—

No. 4567, Corporal D. Inglis, "G" Company.
„ 5130, „ W. Cockburn, "H" Company.

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 4628, Sergt. G. Ballantine, "E" to "G" Company.
„ 5945, Corpl. A. McRae, "H" to "E" „
„ 4058, „ J. Buchanan, "F" to "B" „

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

The Number 7993 to Private G. Rodwell, "D" Company.

RESTORATION OF SERVICE.

In accordance with para. 1842, *King's Regulations. The Service forfeited by—*

No. 5572, Private J. Wright, "C" Company.

TAKEN ON STRENGTH.

Transferred from 1st Black Watch :—Private R. C. Coventry.

DRAFT.

Posted to "A" Company.

No. 5656, Pte. A. McIntyre. | No. 7103, Pte. A. Shaw.
„ 6537, „ G. R. McKenzie. | „ 7124, „ G. White.
7038, „ A. McLauchlan. | „ 7131, „ T. Blair.
7071, „ J. Connelly. | „ 7198, „ T. Coyne.

No. 7082, Boy W. Allen.

Posted to "B" Company.

No. 7319, Pte. J. Lothian. | No. 7381, Pte. R. McFarlane.
„ 7372, „ A. Paton. | „ 7401, „ T. Hobson.
„ 7378, „ M. Laird. | „ 7419, „ W. Smith.

No. 7425, Private H. Smith.

Posted to "C" Company.

No. 6826, Lce.-Sergt. A. Gibb. | No. 7456, Pte. G. Bell.
„ 7431, Pte. W. Mather. | „ 7461, „ D. Smith.

Posted to "D" Company.

No. 7465, Pte. J. Potter. | No. 7517, Pte. N. McInnes.
„ 7472, „ A. Aitchison. | „ 7584, „ J. McCready.
„ 7478, „ A. Robertson. | „ 7611, Boy R. S. Gunn.
„ 7483, „ J. Campbell. | „ 7689, Pte. J. Clark.
„ 7496, „ T. Burns. | „ 7712, „ J. McPeak.

No. 7751, Private W. Ramsdale.

STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

Embarked on 13th and 20th April for England :—

No. 1529, Color-Sergeant H. W. Bush, "H" Company.
„ 1994, „ „ R. Mitchell, "A" „
„ 3906, Lance-Sergeant J. Lee, "C" „
„ 3123, „ Corporal W. Johnson, "C" „
„ 1348, Private D. Jackson, "G" „
„ 1623, „ J. McNulty, "A" „
„ 3848, „ J. McPherson, "A" „
„ 3300, „ D. Ward, "C" „
„ 2951, „ H. Bryson, "H" „
„ 1818, „ J. Morrison, "H" „
„ 4325, „ J. Moriarty, "G" „
„ 5404, „ J. Cook, "G" „
„ 7027, „ J. Ross, "E" „
„ 5615, „ G. Fletcher, "G" „
„ 6356, „ J. Wilson, "E" „
„ 3408, „ J. Smith, "D" „

FURLOUGHS.

Granted furloughs to England :—

No. 1438, Color-Sergeant. H. Ditcham, "F" Company.
„ 3551, Sergeant H. Kerr, "A" „

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

Party of Casuals.

			£	s.	d.
No. 2516, Sergeant J. Hay,	"A" Coy. ...		0	1	0
„ 4979, Private M. Mossman,	"B" „ ...		0	6	0
„ 6484, „ J. Bradley,	"E" „ ...		0	2	0
„ 6518, „ D. Fraser,	"F" „ ...		0	1	0
„ 2922, Lce.-Cpl. J. Bertram,	"F" „ ...		0	0	6

Best shots of the Corporals and Privates of the Battalion :—

No. 4567, Cpl., D. Inglis,	"D" Coy. ...	1	0	0
„ 5357, Lce.-Cpl. J. Stewart,	"A" „ ...	0	10	0
„ 4344, Bandsman J. Burns,	"D" „ ...	0	6	6
„ 4570, Private T. Warnock,	"F" „ ...	0	5	0

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Domestic Occurrences.

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BIRTH.

MACLEAN.—At Lochbuie on 30th April, 1901, the wife of Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean of a son.

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McEWAN'S.

The Soldier's Beer.

IN WOOD

Direct from the SHIP to the MESS.

IN HOGSHEADS.

IN HOGSHEADS.

SPECIAL TERMS

Quoted on application to the Sole Agents in India,

CUTLER, PALMER & CO.

The Beer can be supplied from either of their Houses at

CALCUTTA. LAHORE. BOMBAY OR MADRAS.

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Rs. 32-8 Per Dozen.

NOTHING SUCCEEDS SO WELL AS

Success.

Rs. 32-8 Per Dozen.

INVALID'S PORT.

INVALID'S PORT

INVALID'S PORT

THIS PARTICULAR WINE is as free from alcohol as it is possible for Port to be to retain the natural characteristics of a delicate and suitable Wine for Invalids.

Professor CASSAL has analysed our Invalids Wine, and his certificate of purity is attached to every bottle we ship. Our Wine has frandulent imitations, we therefore ask that those who order this particular Wine of ours should see that the bottles bear the Professor's name in addition to our own.

CUTLER, PALMER & Co., CALCUTTA,

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THE THIN RED LINE.

LAHORE: Printed for the Proprietors by the "Civil and Military Gazette" Press.

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JUNE. 1901.

The Thin Red Line.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE ALMA BALACLAVA SEVASTOPOL LUCKNOW

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DURBAN: FIELD STREET.
KARACHI: BUNDER ROAD.
CALCUTTA: 8 1, COUNCIL HOUSE STREET.
MARSEILLES: 32, RUE DE LA REPUBLIQUE.
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Vol. V,

THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 2—Vol. VII. RANIKHET,—JUNE 1901. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

OWING to the paucity of officers available for duty during the month, the usual weekly manœuvre parade, except on one occasion, could not be held, route marching being substituted.

Friday, 10th May, found four companies of the battalion, under Major Aitken, operating as the advanced guard of a force "A," marching from Kathgodam to Dwarahat, with orders to clear and protect the Ranikhet-Dwarahat road for the passage of the main body and baggage on the following day. "B" and "E" companies, under Captain Darroch, represented the advanced guard of a hostile "B" force, operating from Ramnugger. This advanced guard encamped at Tarakhet on the 9th, and received orders to make a dash on the morning of the 10th and intercept "A's" advanced guard before they could reach the Gugas river. A most interesting "field day" this proved to be, the ground being entirely new to most of the troops, besides being extremely difficult to get over owing to the steepness and slippery nature of the khuds. Both sides assumed the rôle of attackers and defenders in turn.

* * * *

A recent battalion order reads :—

The following extracts from the remarks of the Lieutenant General Commanding on the annual inspection are published for information—"A fine battalion, thoroughly fit for active service."

* * * *

"D" Company, the first to test the possibilities of the new musketry scheme, have completed their course with an average of 141 points for individual practices and a percentage of 45 in collective. Bandsman Burns who chose to fire with his company is "best shot," his score being 199. Sixty-three men were exercised with the company, twenty-eight of whom secure the gold guns, whilst of the remainder thirty-three are 2nd and two are 3rd class shots.

* * * * *

The summer is now upon us, the fact being recognised by the sounding of reveillé at 5-30 A.M. and retreat at 6-30 P.M. Khaki is also taken into wear for walking out on week days and Sundays between reveillé and retreat, and for Church parades on Sundays.

* * * * *

2nd-Lieutenant Muirhead, Unattached List, has been attached to the battalion for the usual

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twelve months' probation with a British Regiment, and is posted to "E" Company.

* * * * *

The Standing Camp had "sports" during the fore part of the month. Private Comrie, "H" Company, is to be congratulated on his success in the "Open Mile Race," which he won easily. The only other "open" event was a dog race, and this was won by a 93rd *kutta* belonging to Private Cairns of "D" Company.

* * * * *

Men desirous of exchange home can do so under the following conditions :—

Non-Commissioned Officers, Drummers and Pipers —Have completed six years' continuous service abroad.

Privates—Have re-engaged and completed six years' continuous service abroad, or, if not re-engaged, have a total of nine years' service, of which six have been continuously abroad.

The above order probably accounts for the large number of "re-engagements and extensions" that have taken place during the month. Home, sweet home, at any price!

* * * * *

Classes of instruction have been formed of men desirous of being trained as carpenters, tailors, or shoemakers. Visions of many "nights in bed" for these budding tradesmen have been somewhat rudely dispelled by an order requiring them to attend the workshops every day when not on duty or on any other parade requiring their presence.

* * * * *

No less than three Sergeants have left the battalion lately to join the Indian Volunteers as Sergeant Instructors. Sergeant A. Jeffrey has departed for Calcutta to join the Volunteer Rifles there, while Sergeant G. Gunn has hied himself down south to Hubli where he will impart instruction to the Southern Mahratta Railway Volunteers. Sergeant C. Clark has gone to keep another 93rd man company at Cawnpore. We refer to Sergeant Alec. MacDonald who left the battalion in 1898, and is, we are pleased to hear, about to be promoted Sergeant-Major of the Cawnpore Rifles.

* * * * *

In our last issue we omitted to mention anything about the Sergeants' shoot for the Gilchrist Cup, an event that came off on Thursday, 18th April. This trophy, presented to the Sergeants when the regiment was stationed at Maryhill Barracks, Glasgow, is supposed to be competed for annually, but as a matter of fact there have only been three recorded shoots for it. However, a fresh start has been made, and there is no reason why the rivalry for possession should not be kept up in the future. Sergeant Arnott was the successful marksman on this occasion, and he fully deserved his win, his score being by far the best on the range, the next best being no less than eight points behind. The day was a fine one, though not for shooting, a strong wind from the left that swept up the hill-side making the attainment of a large score a matter of extreme difficulty. The conditions were seven rounds each at 200, 500 and 600 yards; position, any military. Sergeant Arnott's score was 95 points, the next best being Sergeants Scott and Ogg, who tied for 2nd place with 87 points. Every Sergeant in the battalion competed with the exception of two, a most pleasing feature of the occasion, and one that greatly enhanced the honour of winning the Cup. Tiffin was served on the range and the catering, in the able hands of Sergeant Gordon, was all that could be desired.

* * * * *

The number of candidates for first class certificates of education who have placed themselves in the able hands of our popular schoolmaster for instruction, has suffered no diminution, compared with that of last year's class. A special feature this year is the large number of Sergeants, eight, we believe, availing themselves of Mr. Gover's tuition.

* * * * *

Captain Richardson, who left us about the latter end of 1896 on exchange to the first Battalion, has been appointed Adjutant of the fourth Battalion.

* * * * *

The post of Director-General of Military Intelligence of the Army in South Africa, since the succession of Lord Kitchener to the chief command, has been filled by Brevet Lieutenant Colonel D. Henderson of our first battalion,

* * * * *

Again we have to chronicle the death of one of the now rapidly diminishing band which formed the famous "Thin Red Line." Major Middleton with his usual kindness has forwarded the following cutting taken from the Glasgow *Evening News*, having reference to the melancholy event :—

Last Saturday week, Drummer Tom Brand, NINETY-THIRD Highlanders, was going about in his usual health till late in the afternoon; but about four o'clock on the following morning this veteran was suddenly called to his rest, and his comrades now mourn the loss of a real good friend. He joined the NINETY-THIRD Sutherland Highlanders at Carlisle in 1846; served with the regiment in Montreal, Quebec, &c.; stood in the "Thin Red Line" in the Crimea; and, after suffering all the hardships of that disastrous campaign, went all through the Indian Mutiny. He wore four medals as well as the much coveted decoration for long service and good conduct. Deceased was present with his old comrades, and formed one of a group taken in the city here in 1895; but as he lived a considerable distance from Glasgow many of his comrades here were debarred from paying a last tribute to his memory by attending his funeral.

* * * * *

Judging from the large number of "Thin Red Line" heroes whose deaths we have recorded

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during the last three or four years, the number who are still alive must be very limited indeed.

The following from the pages of a Scottish paper will doubless be read with interest, telling as it does of at least one old veteran who is still hale and hearty—

John Davy Maxwell, who fought through the whole of the Crimean War and Indian Mutiny, and who retires this week through the age limit from active service in the Dumblane Post Office. Maxwell, before he was 18 years of age, joined the 71st Foot in April, 1853, and served 21 years in the army, and during that time fought in no less than 21 battles. When the Crimea War broke out he was one of the first to volunteer and join the NINETY-THIRD. After doing some rough work with allied regiments in Bulgaria, he sailed with his regiment for the Crimea, landing at Old Fort on 14th Sept., 1854. He went through the whole campaign. Besides getting the Crimean Medal, with three clasps for Alma, Balaclava, and Sebastopol, he also received the Turkish Medal. Maxwell is one of the few now remaining of those who formed the "Thin Red Line." On the morning of Inkerman he was on sentry duty, and, hearing the artillery in the distance, wakened Sir Colin Campbell from his sleep, and received instructions to get the alarm given. When the Indian Mutiny broke out the NINETY-THIRD were on their way from England to China, and at the Cape their destination was altered to Calcutta. Maxwell also went through the whole of this campaign, gaining the medal with two clasps for the Relief of Lucknow and Lucknow. Later on he gained the North-West Frontier Medal. His fifth medal is for good conduct. After his discharge he remained for some years in the reserve, and in 1879 joined the Post Office. His age, after another 21 years' service to the Crown, compels him to retire, but he is very fit yet for work. Maxwell bears the traces of battle wounds in his limbs and head, but he cannot be induced to say anything with reference to his experience and encounters on the battlefield.

We know of some others who are still to the fore, but some of our readers might be able to supply us with further information relative to the number, or approximate number of Crimean and Mutiny veterans who are still alive.

* * * * *

The following is a list of the names of officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of our first battalion brought to notice by Major General Sir Hector MacDonald, K. C. B., D. S. O., commanding the Highland Brigade, for services at Paardeberg :—

HIGHLAND BRIGADE STAFF.

Major E. B Urmston, 1st Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Brigade-Major.

1ST BATTALION ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS.

Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson is an officer of strong personality, and led his men over the open plain with skill and judgment,

Captain F. J. Richardson, Lieutenant A. L. C. Clarke, 2nd Lieutenant B. J. Lang, 2nd Lieutenant W. V. St. C. Maclaren, 3168 Sergeant Robinson, 4824 Sergeant Sutherland led their sections with great skill into the bed of the river over the plain.

5714 Corporal Ferrier, conspicuous pluck with Maxim gun.

6422 Private Luke showed an excellent example in creeping up the south bank of the river with great pluck and cunning, taking the Boers in reverse, who were causing the Maxim gun detachment great annoyance at about 300 yards.

2352 Private M'Laren and 6403 Private MacDonald rendered excellent service as ammunition carriers and carrying messages in the firing line.

* * * * *

From the H. L. I. chronicle we cull the following extract from the letter of an officer of the Highland Light Infantry, invalided home recently from Ashanti:—

"Captain Johnston Stewart, of the 93rd, has a little terrier with him called 'Goa.' 'Goa' loves soldiers, but hates war. Whenever 'the guns begin to play' 'Goa' runs away. He found pressing business in camp during the Datchi fight. The Levies found him sneaking home from Dunassi, and brought him back with them. But Abuasu was too much for him altogether; he made record time back to Kumási, which he reached three hours after the last shot had been fired; and his character being so well understood, everyone at Kumasi knew, eighteen hours before the arrival of Sir James Willcocks's official despatch, that the column had engaged the enemy."

* * * * *

On Friday, 24th May, the battalion performed the "ancient ceremonial" of trooping the colour. The parade was at 8-30 a.m. in "Review order, serge clothing," rather a warm dress for the time of the year. The battalion was in full strength, but owing to the limited extent of the parade-ground only four companies took part in the ceremony, the remainder being in line on the road between the Treasury and the military works godown. As only half of the battalion was present at the practice parade held previously, the "ceremonial" went off very well. At the conclusion of the "troop" the four companies on the road marched down to the square and joined in the "march past." The sight was evidently considered as one worth seeing, the crowd of spectators who lined the steep khuds on either side of the parade ground being the largest we have ever seen in Ranikhet. The last occasion on which the battalion "trooped colours" was at the Jubilee in 1887 when the NINETY-THIRD was stationed at Cork, Colonel Hans Garret Moore, V. C., being in command.

An account of the origin of the ceremony of trooping the colours, taken from an old number of the "Thin Red Line, will be found in another column.

* * * * *

Major-General Sir William Meiklejohn, K. C. B., C. M. G., has taken over temporarily the command of the Oudh District pending the return of Sir A. Gaselee, K. C. B., from China. Brigadier General A. G. F. Browne, D. S. O., officiates for the present as G. O. C., Rohilkand District.

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"Kismet."

A Study.

—o—

The bell of St. Paul's struck twelve!

The man leaned upon the stone parapet and looked down into the river.

Ever and anon, the passing of some craft stirred the thick fog that clung to its swishing surface, and through the rifts, he could catch a momentary glimpse of the sparkling water, rippling sluggishly into infinite space. And he shuddered.

A neighbouring lamp, such as can be seen on the sides of great bridges, sent forth its sickly rays morbidly struggling to pierce the thick asthmatic film of fog.

And all around lay sleeping London. The man looked up at the lamp, and wondered if its pallid light might justly find parallel in his own existence.

A bitter smile radiated his pale, wan face, and played for an instant around his parched lips.

Then he turned and looked down at the river, and the smile was gone.

Suddenly from the circle of mist not pierced by the lamp's weak rays, loomed forth the rolling figure of a man in his cups.

A loose water-proof fluttering carelessly over his shoulders, a large expanse of white shirt front and a top-hat balanced rakishly on the back of his head.

The man on the bridge shrank back into one of those dark stone recesses that are too often the resting places of London's starving poor; his eyes, wild with a longing born of hunger, gazed greedily at a sparkling watch-chain in the fellow's waistcoat.

The battle with temptation lasted but a moment, and, overcome by weakness, he staggered as he clutched at the stone he leaned against. The battle with his inner man was won. Startled out of his drunken reveries by a sound so near at hand, the passing reveller stopped and, looking into the dark corner, struck a *vesta*.

The two men stood for a moment and looked into one another's eyes, the rich one noting the poor one's haggard mien and shabby gentility,—drinking into his liquor-sodden mind the appearance of poverty, the appeal for pity the crouching figure bespoke.

Then the match went out.

The poor man's parching lips opened and a hoarse unnatural voice stammered:

"Bread! Oh, bread!"

"Bah!"

The drunkard turned sharply away and, mumbling to himself, lurched on into the fog.

The bell of St. Paul's struck the half-hour!

The man had sunk into the furthest corner of the recess, a violent fit of coughing shook his frame.

Then the sleep of weakness crept on him unawares and he slumbered. How long he lay thus he knew not, but presently awoke, with the infinite pain of hunger ever gnawing at his frame, and his heart filled with a fierce anger at the heartlessness of man.

"Bread! Oh, bread!"

It was all his cry, and bowing his head until the cheek lay on the cold stone parapet, he burst into a flood of tears.

A passing coal barge glided down the misty river. He caught a glimpse of its head-light and heard the harsh shout of its crew, the hearty laugh of some jolly tar.

And his face grew stern. A wild unreasoning joy chased the sorrow from his eyes. He held his head more erect, the roundness of his shoulders became straightened, until the starving tramp disappeared in the inborn graces of gentlemanly nature.

He was once more himself.

For an instant, he listened attentively. Hearing no body, he drew himself up on to the parapet, and sat there, holding on by both hands, his legs dangling over the bridge.

"Where," he mused, "is all the bravery I have promised myself? What is the use of life to me? I cannot taste its sweets, they are not for me," and he shivered as the cold air pierced his rags.

He was looking at the slimy water. It seemed to possess an extraordinary fascination for him, as clinging to the stone he leaned far out into space.

"Twice," he said talking to himself "twice I have tried, and have not had strength of will to end my misery. I have played too long with my fate. This is the third time and the last."

One hand was covering his eyes, the other gathering strength to push himself down—down to the grave so many have sought, who were tired to death of a hand-to-mouth existence.

A firm hand grasped his arm and pulled him forcibly back.

He heard a kindly voice say "Come, come—do not be so foolish" and he remembered no more.

When the stranger drew him out into the light, he had fainted.

And the bell of St. Paul's struck the first hour of another day.

* * * * *

The outpost was doomed.

He knew it as he crouched behind a sheltering boulder and heard the rattling musketry on every side.

He smiled to himself as he thought of the forgotten opportunities, the string of mistaken ideas that were to blame for his present position, and he wondered if the nation would

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ever be told the exact state of affairs—that someone had blundered.

It would appear in the papers—oh yes, a picquet cut up—a mere detail to those at home who slept in peace on feather beds.

He laughed recklessly at the thought of it, and covered a too adventurous Afridi creeping across the nullah he was watching.

Why should he reserve his ammunition, he asked himself, and fired!

It was scarce enough—God knows, but it mattered little now how long the struggle lasted. They were on their last legs, night would see the end. Already the ring was closing round them; the higher peaks in the rear—too early vacated—belched forth a scorching fire that was far from comfortable.

And yet he laughed and consigned more Afridi souls to purgatory.

The man beside him was cursing horribly, but it did not seem to strike him as wrong—in fact he took it as an ordinary occurrence.

The bullets were splashing on the boulders around him—some coming uncomfortably near, and little by little the doomed picquet closed in together. Again and again he refilled his magazine—again and again he emptied it, and swore between sternly clenched teeth to sell his life as dearly as a Briton should.

The sun was sinking over the heights before him—and the cool night air played on his fevered face.

How gratefully he drank it in!—nor felt even a twitch of fear as the ring of dusky figures drew nearer and nearer, till their evil faces were almost discernible.

A fierce joy thrilled him through and through, and his aim grew more deadly. The man on his left lay weltering almost in reach of his arm—on his right his officer was firing with the dead man's rifle,—and in the gathering darkness he realized that they numbered but five!

The officer turned to him for ammunition. He had only four rounds left, but threw over two and, as he did so, his mind wandered back to a night on a lonely bridge, with a starving man courting death and a kindly voice that said:

"Come, come—do not be so foolish."

Bang!—one of his last two rounds was gone.

He flung off the equipment that hampered him, having on his water-bottle only, and put his last round in the breach. That gone, with bayonet fixed he awaited the final charge.

When it came, he went momentarily mad,—he cut and thrust and struck and cursed.

He thought himself surrounded—his eye caught wild glimpses of their evil faces.

A fearful blow—a sudden sense of peace—and he lay senseless among the dead he had created.

* * * * *

The moon was shining when he came to, with a sickening sense of pain in his head and the heavy weight of dead men across his legs.

After a struggle he got himself clear and staggered to his feet only to fall again, the blood oozing from a wound in his head.

He tore off a sleeve of his shirt and wound it round as far as it would go.

His hand touched his water-bottle, and then he knew that he was thirsty. He wondered he had not thought of it before, but now his parched lips spoke for themselves.

As he would have drunk, some one near him moaned—a sad low wail—"water! water!"

Slowly he crept in the direction of the sound, filled with joy at the mere thought of someone else that lived.

The moon showed him the up-turned face of his officer—living but, as he could see at a glance, wounded sore.

The remembrance of that face he had seen on the bridge before he fainted on that night so long ago, chased all thought of thirst from his mind, and he held the half-filled water bottle to his benefactor's lips.

When he took it away—it was empty. He threw it away with a half suppressed sigh—and lay down to rest his head.

He did not feel the fever raging through his veins—and he did know that the search party came with the dawn and found the man he had served, weak—but alive. For *he* was dead! and his deed was never chronicled, but that same sun which shines upon the just and unjust heralded the dawn of a new era in his existence—he had overcome his Fate.

HOMO.

At the Dramatic Club Gaff.

THE Dramatic Club opened their new season on Monday, 13th inst.

One might certainly have expected a more perfected display of their talent, but on the second night the improvement was so marked that one felt bound to regret the long pauses which did so much to damp the ardour of their first night's audience.

An excellent display on the parallel bars by the gymnastic staff was a thoroughly good turn, the exercises being neatly carried out, and the pieces were especially admired.

Armour's descriptive song "Under the Shadow of old St. Paul's" was rendered with a better touch of dramatic instinct than he showed last year.

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The coon song "My little Octoroon" was scarcely suited to the singer, and we should strongly advise Gray to continue in his old lines, so few men can render a purely sentimental song or ballad really well, whereas coon songs are usually the resource of men who have the poorest of voices and very little style.

Our old friends, Wainwright and Dinwoodie, elicited an encore for their topical duet. "We've never been the same men since!"

The tableaux "Gratitude" was, we believe, more than anything an experiment with the object of discovering the popularity of this species of "variety."

Needless to say, both tableaux were effectively portrayed, although the lighting proved erratic.

It was apparent from the scantiness of the variety that the important item on the programme was intended to be centred in the production of the new burlesque "Utopia."

A critical survey of the first act left an impression of the light vein assumed in last year's "Operatic Operation"—little plot, and yet much plotting—the whole of which plotting centred in the unfortunate and much be-worried King of Utopia.

The second act, in which all the plotting was apparently a thing of the past, caught up the scattered threads of a court fantasy and wove them into an intricate web around a bandit's haunts.

The King of Utopia, the worried monarch and rejected suitor, found a good exponent in J. B. Clarke, almost continuously accompanied by his satellites the Lord Chamberlain and the master *chef*, who, by the way, is to be congratulated on the rendering of his song in the second act, a skit on that old favourite "She Bumps"

Armour, as the "Minister of State," sang and spoke better than we ever remember him to have done. His style is vastly improved since last year.

Gray, as General Strongbolo, portrayed a jovial blustering character, typical of the period changing, after his retreat into the mountains, into the wild barbarism of the Stage Bandit, giving the libretto a touch of colour rarely seen in amateur threatricals. We hear his song "The Forty Thieves" hummed and whistled in barrack room and institute.

Perhaps the most noticeable improvement since last year came in the surprise caused by Wainwright's excruciatingly funny rendering of the fugitive President of Marmaladia "Lumbagos," whose medicine chest and bottle of tonic were continuously cropping up. His two songs were well sung, and it was easy to detect a vast difference between these and his last attempts.

Of Painter's "Petronella," we cannot give anything but the highest praise. His impersonation of a giddy, scheming young thing of the feminine persuasion was simply perfection. The adoption by him of a high falsetto in the singing of choruses sounded extremely well and remedies a defect very noticeable in his parts of last year, when he had to drop from the high-toned voice of a young lady to the low-sounding baritone of an everyday young man, whenever he commenced to sing.

The dresses and scenic effects were exceptionally good, especially the former, the greatest care evidently having been taken in making them suit the various characters depicted.

There is a rumour current, for the truth of which we cannot vouch, that for financial reasons no more entertainments will be given by the Regimental Rank and File Dramatic Club, but surely this cannot be true. Surely anything that tends to break the monotony of our lives in this land of boredom is wothy of support.

An entirely new and original

BURLESQUE IN 2 ACTS.

ENTITLED

UTOPIA

OR

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."

Expressly written by C. Painter.

CHARACTERS.

Artaxominous II. (The reigning King of Utopia), J. B. CLARKE.
Lumbagos (The fugitive President of the "Marmaladian" Republic) ... ... F. WAINWRIGHT.
Fizgig (The Minister of State to Utopia) C. J. ARMOUR.
General Federigo Strongbolo. (Commanding the Utopian Field Force) A. W. GRAY.
The Lord High Chamberlain, ... M. GRIEVE.
Mons. de Piage (The Lord Chief Master Chef) ... ... D. DINWOODIE.
Cpl. Antonio (of the Utopian Grenadiers) ... J. BURNS.
Petronella (Lumbago's daughter,) ... C. B. PAINTER.

Grenadiers, Courtiers, Bandits, etc.

ACT I.

The Courtyard of the Royal Palace.

INCIDENTAL MUSIC.

Trio ... "The Duties of a King" (King, Chamberlain and Chef).
Song ... "It must have been the Lobster" (Lumbagos).
Song ... "There lived a King" (King with Strongbolo and Petronella).
Quartette ... "Conspiracee" (Fizgig, Lumbagos, Chamberlain and Chef).

ACT II.

A Mountain Pass in Utopia.

INCIDENTAL MUSIC.

Dance of Banditti.
Song ... "The Forty Thieves" .. STRONGBOLO.
Song ... "Oh, Her Face!"... ... LUMBAGOS.
Song ... "Mary Morrison" ... KING.
Song ... "Vat oh! She vas not bump" ... ... MONS. DE PIAGE.
Song ... "The Yankee Dude" ... FIZGIG.
Song ... "The Forty Thieves" ... ENSEMBLE.

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To be preceded at 9-30 P. M. by a
VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT:

GRAND PARALLEL DISPLAY

By the Gymnastic Staff, 93rd Highlanders.

'We've never been the same men since.'

Comic Duet ... F. WAINWRIGHT & D. DINWOODIE.

MY LITTLE OCTOROON

Coon Song ... ... A. GRAY.

Under the Shadow of Old St. Paul's.

Descriptive Song ... ... C. J. ARMOUR.

The well known Picture founded on an incident
IN
THE GREAT BOER WAR
"GRATITUDE!"
(IN TWO TABLEAUX.)
GOD SAVE THE KING.

—:o:—

Bye and Bye.

—o—

I.

We are waiting! We are waiting,
As we've done so many years;
We have finished agitating,
We have passed the Vale of Tears.
So we sit here idly dreaming
While the autocrats are scheming,
And we pay but slight attention
To their quarrelsome dissension;
For we know it can't last long
So, let them sing their song,
They'll be tired of talking nonsense
Bye and Bye.

II.

We are marching, we are drilling,
And our duties grow more hard,
While the Upper Ten are filling
Brau' new Drill Books by the yard
With the latest arts of battle
And such army tittle-tattle.
As the proverb used to say,
"More you work—the more you may!"
Will it dawn (ah! what a question!)
On their benighted comprehension
That we'd like a rise of wages.
Bye and Bye.

III.

When the war flame's burning brightly
It is "Noble Tommy! Here!"
But in peace 'tis altered slightly,
Are you "noble then?—No fear!
You are "common, vulgar, low!"
"Plaguey nuisance—don't cher know!"
Yes. They tell another tale
When the war grows old and stale;
Won't the echo of your fame
Make them hang their heads with shame
And treat you as they should do
Bye and Bye.

G. B.

At the Cameronian's Gaff.

—:o:—

The theatre was occupied on Tuesday and Wednesday, 21st and 22nd May, by the "Camerorians" Dramatic Club.

Their programme, a copy of which we append, was a very similar one to that which they brought over last year.

The variety might perhaps have been a little more brisk, but any failings were overcome by the success of the Farce, which was undoubtedly the 'take' of the evening.

Of the cast, one feels bound especially to remark on the brightness and 'verve' of Mrs. Birmingham's rendering of the young widow "Mrs. Green."

Sergt. Coxall made a spirited "John Rattleton," his numbers being most effectively sung, in particular the duet "My Girl." Corpl. Dickenson made a hit as Mr. Rapps, although we much preferred him as "Pitcher" of "Area Belle" fame.

The attendance of the Cameronian String Band under the able baton of Mr. Birmingham was in itself a great draw, and added a *finesse* to a most enjoyable entertainment.

Programme.

PART I.

OVERTURE ...	... ...	ORCHESTRA
1. Song (Patriotic),	*"Fighting for King and Country"*	Sergt. TAYLOR
2. Song (Comic) ...	*"The North Pole"*	Pte. DAWKINS
3. Darkies' Lullaby,	*"Go Bye Bye"* ...	Mrs. BIRMINGHAM & FAMILY
4. Song ...	*"Big Ben"*	Corpl. DICKENSON
5. Song (Comic),	*"Where's the War"*	Corpl. BADNALL
6. Song ...	*"Fiona"* ...	Sergt. KITSON
7. Coon Song,	*"Dinah an Me"*	Johnny BIRMINGHAM
8. Comic Duet,	*"Jane Shore"*	Cpl. BADNALL & Pte DAWKINS

PART II.

SELECTION. ORCHESTRA.

FARCE.

MADE MUSICAL—ENTITLED.
"MRS. GREEN'S SNUG LITTLE BUSINESS."
Characters.

Mr. John Rattleton		Sergt. COXALL.
Mr. Rapps	(*A Policeman*)	Corpl. DICKENSON.
Bung	(*Beadle of St. Botts*)	Sergt. BUTLER.
Inspector of Police		Johnny BIRMINGHAM.
Joe	(*Mrs. Green's boy*)	Bandsman LONG.
Mrs. Green		Mrs. BIRMINGHAM.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

—:o:—

Letter to the Editor.

A VISIT TO DAGSHAI.

—o—

It may be of interest to the old hands in the Battalion to hear something about Dagshai. On going through the barracks I was much struck by the many alterations and improvements that have taken place since we were stationed there. Water syphons are placed all over the barracks,

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new roads have been made, in fact, the whole place has been thoroughly overhauled, and it is a much nicer place now than in our time. I saw two familiar faces there, Mrs. and Miss O'Leary, the widow and daughter of the late Barrack-master. I daresay several of the Sergeants will remember them, for they were regular attendants at the dances. I visited the cemetery and found the graves of the N. C. O.'s and men we lost while there in excellent order. During my walk round I passed the old cemetery, the one just below the Hospital, and close to the Commissariat Godowns. On the right hand gate pillar I noticed the following inscription—"The thorough renovation of these cemeteries and other repairs to the graves and tombstones was instituted and carried out by the 93rd Highlanders in 1893."

All the pathways, stones, &c., are in good order still.

VISITOR.

—:o:—

Physical Drill Competition.

—o—

On Wednesday, 8th May, the annual competition for Captain H. P. Moulton-Barretts' shield took place on the parade ground.

Two prizes of Rs. 30 and Rs. 20 were also awarded to the two teams which were declared by the judges (the Adjutant and Sergeant Major of the 1st Cameronians) to be the best, *viz* :—"G" Coy., 1st, and "C" Coy., 2nd.

The weather was all that could be desired.

The teams were formed up facing the sun, and presented a very smart appearance.

All teams drilled well, and the words of command were correctly given. The names of the winning team are as follows :—

Privates Anderson, Benson, Bradie, Cosgrove, Chilton, Douther, F. Eite, H. Eite, Fyffe, Houston, Hill, Hunter, Kelly, MacCulloch, J. MacMillan, Mulholland, MacPherson, Marshall, Munro, Murphy, Scullion, A. Smith, Rice, Ryans.

Squad Commander, Sergeant G. Ballantine.

SPECTATOR.

—:o:—

Funny place for the Heart.

—o—

In the lobby of the House two members of Parliament were discussing the honour being paid to Ireland and Irish troops. The one was a Scotchman, the other an Irishman. The man from Scotland and condescendingly "It is a very weel to praise the Irish Soldiers," and he proceeded to explain that while he was glad they were to wear the Shamrock on St. Patrick's Day, it must not be forgotten that the Highlanders had been fighting bravely, too. They expected no special mark of favour for their services, they were ready to brave death for their Queen, and their loyalty was beyond reproach. The Irishman interrupted indignantly. "I would have you know sorr," he cried, "that as thrue a heart beats under an Irish soldier's tunic as beneath any Highlander's kilts." In less than ten minutes the story had gone round the whole house.

What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.

THAT it's been through the chair.
That he has four gongs to his medal.
That the P.D. Competition wis guid.
That the Sairgents glowered aboot owre muckle.
That this dis'na affect the Grenadier Company.
That in future "Phisical Dreel only" should be allowed.
That the European cooking is a *success*.
That Sumdoo dis'na like it.
That the big sizes are in demand.
That it's much more, plenty Khaki take it Sahib.
That he rode his pony at the pitch of his voice.
That it's "keep the rear rank flat on the ground."
That somebody's auntie hes been a Rochabite Magazine for forty lang years.
That he was looking for something *cold*.
That the paint was really *wet*.
That prisoners are not allowed to smoke in the *vacancy* of the cells.
That the last breeze is responsible for some new Dreel.
That you ev tae staun steady when you're marking time.
That Raleigh was *implicated* in the potato and tobacco plants.
That V. H. G. staunds for verral, hose and garters.
That we're no sae fou, sae very, very fou (too mony new cooks).
That "Johnstieon" is a nice wee man.
That it wull tak its awfa Davie that the T. X. 'll no get bame.
That the "Doon Local chaps" are back.

—:o:—

The Highland Brigade at Paardeberg.

—o—

The following is an extract from the report of Major-General H. Macdonald, commanding the Highland Brigade regarding the operations of his men at Paardeberg :—

I directed the Brigade to move out of bivouac in single rank in file with about four paces between each man.

The 1st Battalion A. and S. Highlanders led the Brigade, followed by the 2nd Battalion Royal Highlanders, while the 2nd Battalion Seaforth Highlanders moved in the same formation two companies in support on the right or outer flank. The whole were ready to turn towards the river in extended formation whenever obliged to do so. I myself accompanied the howitzer battery to view the ground and watch the Brigade coming along. The Brigade continued its flank march in extended single rank file formation until the 1st Battalion A. and S. Highlanders got astride the high ground in front of the battery, and just in rear of the firing line of the Yorkshire Regiment and the Buffs.

When the end of the ridge was reached the Brigade came under the shell fire and rifle fire of the enemy in the river bed and turned to the front towards the enemy and advanced steadily under a very heavy fire until the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders merged into the firing line of the Yorkshire Regiment. The remainder of the Brigade continued advancing over the open plain till within 500 yards of the river, whence further pro-

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gress could not be made. Seeing that my left considerably overlapped the enemy's frontier, I directed Major E. B. Urmston, Brigade Major, to bring the companies on the left up the river bed, taking the enemy in flank. In this Major Urmston was successful. He also managed to cross over the river two and a half companies of the 2nd Battalion Seaforth Highlanders and 2nd Battalion Royal Highlanders at considerable risk, the river being in flood and the enemy very active. These companies, having crossed, advanced eastward along the river bank parallel to those on the south, sweeping up the river bed till within 200 yards of the enemy's trenches.

Seeing some companies still unemployed on the left flank, I sent my aide-de-camp, Capt. R. Whigham, A.D.C., of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, to bring them forward along the river bank. I followed him immediately myself. These companies (one of the 2nd Battalion Seaforth Highlanders and two of the Black Watch) were crossed over the river below the bend, and joined those crossed over by Major Urmston in the advance up the river. The first man to cross the river at all was 6269 Piper D. Cameron, 2nd Battalion Black Watch, who did so voluntarily, and his pluck and daring are worthy of special recognition. The Boers were formed in great strength all round the river bend, whence they kept up a heavy fire in all directions.

—: o :—

Tug-o'-War.

—o—

The annual competition for the Shield has again passed; but the memory of it no doubt will linger among us years hence; producing as it has one of the finest struggles ever witnessed in the history of the trophy. The interest taken in this year's competition was extraordinary, so much so, that it served as the chief topic of conversation for a considerable time previous to the actual struggle. "B" and "H" Companies were the prime favourites. These two teams had been consistently in training for the last five or six months; and in that time reduced tug-o'-war to a science and art, as well as a test of strength. The result of the first ties brought "B" into favour, as the eventual winner, through the easy manner in which they hauled "F" Company over; but the next ties acclaimed "H" as the probable victors. This change of opinions was arrived at by the neat win of "H" over "A" Company. The latter were no mean opponents; for though not being so well trained as "H" still they possessed an advantage in weight. Accordingly on the last day excitement was intense. Both teams took the field with confidence in their ability to win, but the advantage distinctly lay with "H" who had the major support of the spectators and what was more important, had won the toss which gave to them the down-hill side of the square. During the first minute, "H" gradually hauled "B" till one man was carried; they, however, could not do more than lay on in the next. "B" then recovered the lost ground in the third and fourth, but again gave way the fifth. In the sixth minute "H" had two of their opponents over; and were valued for more, as "B" had slipped the rope. During this period, both teams had at times taken the turn; though "B" could not do much in their turning, as "H" came down to a check, every time they attempted to do so.

Kerr, who saw that his team was doing more harm than good in pulling against this check, now gave his team the signal to immediately turn to their front, and let go the rope and continued to do so whenever it was used. This proved to be of an immense service to "B" Company, as the temporary release from the strain brought them relief, and took the stiffness out of their hands. "H" now became demoralized, when it was seen, that their check in place of becoming a service to them, was giving their opponents relief, while they had to hang on to the rope, lest "B" should suddenly pull and regain their lost ground. As a natural result of this tiring of "H" Company, and the gaining of strength by "B" the ground lost by the latter was recovered in the seventh minute. In the eighth, neither obtained any advantage; but at its close "B" turned again, and swayed the rope from side to side, so as to shake "H" out of their ground. This had good effect for "B" as it caused "H" to slide, an opportunity too good to be lost by Kerr, who made his team accelerate their exertions by heaving as well, till at ninth minute, ten men of "H" were over. "B" now turned to their front again to obtain relief, the tenth minute passing with the teams in the same position; shortly afterwards, they took the turn again, and hauled the last man of "H" Company over. Time 10 minutes, 13 seconds.

The pull was a grand one, and was well worthy of a final tie; the strain on the men was so heavy, that many of them fainted at its conclusion. "B" Company deserve great credit, for the sportsman-like manner in which they set to their work, for though the conditions were adverse to them—ground and popular approval—they never lost their heads. Kerr was undoubtedly a success, and to his splendid coaching may be attributed the success of his men. "B" have now established a record in the battalion. The company is only 80 strong, and yet they have obtained the Football Clock, Tug-o'-War Shield, Cricket Clock, and are again favourites for the latter trophy in the competition now about to take place. In addition to these, Sergt. Arnott has won the Sergeant's Shooting Cup with 95 points, and Mossman secured a cup for the 100 yards race at Bombay (both belonging to "B" Company), making in all five trophies won

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in the field of sport. It will be some time no doubt ere this record will be beaten, if ever it will, but this stupendous task ought not to deter others from attaining the same position now held by "B" Company:—

FIRST TIES.—*26th April* 1901.

"*H*" *Company* v. "*C*." *Company*—"C" won the toss, but it was of little use to them, as three went over in the first minute, four more in the second, and the remainder in one minute, twenty seconds. *Time*, 3 *minutes*, 20 *seconds*.

"*E*" *Company* v. "*A*" *Company*—The toss was won by "E," but they lost a man in the first minute, and another four in the next two. During the next minute the other five went over. *Time*, 4 *minutes*.

"*B*" *Company* v. "*F*" *Company*—"B" won the toss, and on taking the strain at once walked away, hauling "F" over in 2 *minutes*, 5 *seconds*.

"*D*" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company*—Was the best pull of the first ties. "D" won the toss, but made no headway against "G." During the first three minutes no ground was obtained by either of the teams. In the fourth, four of "D" were over, fifth seven, and in 6 *minutes*, 15 *seconds* all were over.

SECOND TIES—*30th April* 1901.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company*—"H" won the toss but were content to hang on during the first minute. In the second, they had one of "A" over, but did not improve their advantage during the third minute. "A" now endeavoured to regain their lost ground, when "H" came down to their *check* which made "A" Company helpless. In the fourth "H" hauled another man over; and, in the fith the remainder. *Time*, 5 *minutes*.

"*B*" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company*—"G" won the toss, and contented themselves to merely lying on the rope. "B" had two of them over in the first minute and another two in the second. In the third six men were over, and the remainder in 4 *minutes*, 10 *seconds*.

FINAL TIE.—*2nd May* 1901.

"*B*" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company*—"H" won the toss, and hauled one man over in the first minute, neither made any headway in the next. In the third "B" regained their ground but lost it again in the fifth minute, which was augmented by another man in the sixth. "H" gave way in seventh, but maintained their ground during the eighth. They, however, collapsed in the ninth, and lost ten men, which position they held on to in the tenth; the last going over thirteen seconds later. *Time*, 10 *minutes*, 13 *seconds*.

Names of the winning teams from front to rear with weights:—

	St.	*Lbs.*
Robinson	12	0
Anderson	11	4
Maloney	12	0
Logan	11	10
Dolan	11	10
Scott	11	7
Blyth	12	6
Gibbon	12	8
Ferguson	12	8
McInnes	13	4
Total ...	121	1 = average 12

St. lbs.
1½

WINNERS OF THE TUG-O'-WAR SHIELD.

1893	"A" Company.
1896	"D" "
1897	"H" "
1898	No pull.
1899	"A" Company.
1900	"H" "
1901	"B" "

—:o:—

E. M.,

Cricket Clock Competition.

—o—

Only two games can be recorded in May's issue in place of the four, through "H" Company scratching to "B"; and the match between "C" and "A" Companies being postponed, owing to the absence of several of the officers, who are battling for Ranikhet against Naini Tal at the latter place. Neither of these two games were completed, the advantage obtained by "G" and "E" in their respective matches caused their opponents to become despondent and abandon the games.

"E" COMPANY *v.* "F" COMPANY—*21st May* 1901.

"*F*." *Company*.

Names.	*How out.*	*Scores.*
Private Reid ...	run out Deans ...	0
,, Muir ...	bowled Duncan...	18
,, Millar ...	,, ,, ...	0
Lieut., Fenzie ...	,, ,, ...	4
,, Clarke ...	not out ...	40
Bandsman Edwards,	bowled Deans ...	11
Private Wainwright,	,, Ogden ...	0
,, Turnbull ...	,, Deans ...	1
,, Elliot ...	,, Ogden ...	6
,, Ure ...	,, Deans ...	1
Lce.-Cpl. Bracey ...	,, ,, ...	5
	Extra—Byes ...	8
	Wide Balls ...	6
	Total ...	100

"*E*." *Company*.

Lieut. Latham...	not out ...	6
Private Lawrence	bowled Miller ...	21
,, Gowans...	not out	41
,, Duncan...	bowled Fenzie ...	15
	Extras—Wide Balls	8
	No Balls ...	3
	Total ...	94—for 3 wkts.

McDonald, Millar, Ogden, Lewington, Diplock, Deans, Douglas, did not bat.

"D" COMPANY *v.* "G" COMPANY—*24th May* 1901.

"*G*" *Company*.

Names.	*How out.*	*Scores.*
Sgt. Peggie ...	bowled Burns ...	4
Private Pullar ...	,, ,, ...	57
Lieut. Shakespear,	,, Willcocks...	16
Cpl. Hall ...	,, Burns ...	6
Lce.-Cpl. Ellis	... caught Counel, bowled Burns ...	0
Private Skene ...	bowled Burns ...	8
,, Baker ...	L. B. W. James ...	17
,, McKay ...	bowled Cole ...	6
,, Maslin ...	caught Cole, bowled Burns ...	2
,, Benson ...	not out	20
,, Forbes ...	bowled Burns ...	1
	Extra—Byes ...	10
	Leg byes ...	5
	Total ...	152

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"D" COMPANY.

First Innings.

Names.	*How out.*	*Scores.*
Lt. James ...	run out	11
Cpl. Stevenson ...	bowled Ellis ...	3
Bandsman Burns	„ Peggie ...	4
Private Allan ...	caught Skene, bowled Pullar ...	0
„ Connell,	bowled Peggie ...	0
„ Trotter...	caught Pullar, bowled Peggie ...	12
Cpl. Willcocks ...	caught Baker, bowled Benson ...	19
Lce.-Cpl. Cole ...	run out	1
Private Campbell,	not out	0
„ Rodwell,	bowled, Benson ...	0
„ Coventry	caught Maslin, bowled Benson. ...	5
	Extras—Byes ...	2
	Wide balls ...	2
	Total ...	59

"D" COMPANY.

Second Innings.

Lt. James ...	bowled Pullar ...	10
Private Campbell ...	„ Hall ...	3
Cpl. Willcocks ...	caught Hall, bowled Peggie ...	6
Bandsman Burns ...	not out	4
Private Coventry...	bowled Hall ...	1
	Extras—Byes ...	2
	Wide balls ...	2
	Total ...	28—for 4 wkts.

Connell, Trotter, Allan, Cole, Stevenson, Rodwell did not bat.

E. M.

———:o:———

Hockey.

—o—

"B" COMPANY *v.* "C" COMPANY.

A friendly match between the above companies took place on the parade-ground during the early morning of the 16th May. Play started at 7-30 a. m., and for several minutes after the game was of the exciting description on both sides. Thirteen minutes from the start Stevenson scored the first goal for "B" Company, and almost immediately afterwards. they registered another point as the result of a scrimmage in front of goal. After this the play slackened down for a few minutes till just before half time when as the result of some fine passing between MacGillivray and Stevenson, "B" Company scored a third goal.

Half time results:—"B" Company, 3 goals; "C" Company 0.

On re-starting, "C" Company tried desperately to equalise matters, Mr. Akers-Douglas making a dashing attempt to score. Carter was not to be caught napping however and saved his reputation more than once. Towards the call of time "B" Company added another point through MacGillivray and the game ended with "B" Company as winners by 4 goals to love.

The result of the match is not surprising considering that it was "C" Company's maiden effort at hockey, indeed we are inclined to doubt whether any other team in the regiment could have made a better show against the champions. Mr. Akers-Douglas, Mr. Anson, and Privates Kerr and Marklew were the shining lights of the losing team, and Privates MacGillivray, Stevenson, Logan, Kerr, Russel and Carter of the winners. Carter was in his best form, and was as safe as a rock.

Following are the names of the teams:—

"*B*" *Company*:—*Goal*, Carter; *Backs*, Kerr, Morrison; *Half-Backs*, Bartholmew, Mossman, Russell; *Forwards*, 2nd Lieutenant Kennedy, Logan, Stevenson, MacGillivray, Atherton.

"*C*" *Company*:—*Goal*, Geddes; *Backs*, MacDonald, Kerr; *Half-Backs*, 2nd Lieutenant Anson, Yeo, Wilson; *Forwards*, Brown, Clements, Lieutenant Akers-Douglas, Leitch, Marklew.

———:o:———

Draughts.

—o—

Notwithstanding that the history of Draughts is given to us in many forms, a comparison of the various existing records of the game affords no clue whatever to its origin. Yet, although the invention of the game is lost in obscurity, we are not without evidence of its antiquity. The Egyptians, 2,000 years B. C., appear, from many of their monumental emblems still preserved, to have been adepts at the game. King Rameses is represented, on the walls of his palace. as playing at draughts with some great personage, and also with the ladies of his court. Homer in his first book of the Odyssey describes Minerva's arrival at the palace of Ulysses, as follows:—"There she found the haughty suitors; some of them were amusing themselves before the gates with draughts, sitting upon the hides of oxen which they had slain." With these proofs of its early origin we have no indications whether the game was played as it now is, or in one of its varieties; it may, however, be only just to infer that, as every game has a tendency to improve rather than degenerate, the game was then played in its simplest form, a possible origin of the English system; for the Polish game, the most difficult and scientific of any, can be traced as a modern invention: and furthermore, as a rule the oldest works treat of the game in its simplest form, *i. e.*, played with 64 squares and 24 men. It is generally admitted that Draughts was not introduced into Europe until about the sixteenth century.

Inter-company match:—"*C*" v. "*E*" played on Thursday, 30th May, resulted in a great surprise for "C" Company.

"E"	"C"
Private McDonald	Private Kerr
„ Douglas	„ Smith
„ Campbell	„ Gunn
„ Stephenson	„ Laird
„ Bowie	„ Wight.
Lce.-Cpl. McLean	Lce.-Cpl. McDonald
Points ... 31	Points ... 17

LAIRD AND LADY.

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Sir Hector MacDonald.

—o—

FAREWELL TO THE VOLUNTEERS.

It is now nearly, if not quite, a year since the Volunteer Companies of the Black Watch, the Highland Light Infantry, the Seaforth Highlanders, and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders joined the Highland Brigade for active service in South Africa. Your arrival was looked forward to by your comrades of the regular service; you were accorded a cordial welcome by all ranks; and you have well justified your receptions. If, on first joining amid strange surroundings and unaccustomed duties incidental to a campaign, you were a little doubtful of yourselves and nervous of criticism, it cannot fail to prove a source of gratification to you to know that your devotion to duty, your anxiety to learn, your conduct under fire, your ready adaptation to your altered circumstances, and the manner in which you identified yourselves with your battalions, and conducted yourselves as part and parcel of them, soon gained you the respect of your brigadier, the confidence of your commanding officer, and the friendship of the whole brigade into whose existence you were completely and gladly absorbed. Your own company organisation was preserved under your own officers, and you formed an integral portion of the historical battalions which you joined.

You are now about to proceed home, and I am afforded the opportunity of placing on record my high appreciation of your patriotism in responding to your "country's call," your gallantry in action, your endurance in the field, and your invariable good conduct and cheerfulness in camp and quarters. Together with your comrades of the line and militia, you have endured the hardships and sufferings inseparable from war with the utmost fortitude, and without a murmur. Equally with your other comrades, you have taken your full share of all duties in camp, on the line of march, and on outpost and detachment, having won for yourselves by your soldierly qualities the right to do so. You have marched and fought under trying circumstances—in burning heat, in biting cold and in pouring rain, always without shelter, sometimes with little food, often with your clothes in rags, and your boots and shoes lacking soles, yet with a devotion to duty and a sense of discipline rarely equalled and seldom excelled. I shall not easily forget how, when the first Volunteer was wounded, you took it as a welcome proof that your baptism of fire—so long looked for—had at last been received. On the return home you will tell the story of your reception by the Highland Brigade, and of your sojourn with the generous, hardy, and enduring soldiers, your late comrades, all of whom, with a glorious recollection of dangers confronted and hardships endured together, wish you "Godspeed" on your journey. Your native land will never forget your patriotic response to her appeal, and the sacrifices you have made for her, and I am convinced you need have no fear for your future, as employers will only be too glad to secure your services, as a means of showing their appreciation of your value and conduct, and, together with all your countrymen, will give you a Highland welcome home. Gallant Volunteers, true Highlanders, farewell.

—: o :—

He was a Cairtier.

—o—

During the march of the draft from Ranibag to Ranikhet the following delightful colloquy was overheard:—

First Draftie.—Hae ye seen my blanket dingin aboot onywhere, I've been luikin a' ower camp for it, and canna find it.

Second Draftie. Rin awa doon the road there and ye'll see ane o'thae cairtier chaps (a draby) w' a blanket like oors. I expect he's stole it.

Trooping the Colours.

—o—

Trooping the colours has been the occasion of a military display on the Sovereign's Birthday since the time of George II. The invention of the parade is attributed to the Duke of Cumberland, then Colonel of the 1st Foot Guards. This Commanding Officer professed to be scandalised at the uncertain gait and unsteadiness of his officers, who showed that they had scarcely recovered from the night's orgies, the parade in those days being fixed at the early hour of six in the morning. The Duke therefore devised manœuvres which required each officer to march slowly and separately in a straight line direct to his post, the least irregularity being easily detected. Although fortunately the necessity for this test no longer exists, the parade still continues to be carried out by the Guards in its original form.

—: o :—

Extract from Prof. Macfleart's Geometry.

—o—

Problem 54—Theorem—The British soldier never gets drunk.

Let "A" be the British, "B" the Boers, "C" the Beer.

To prove the British soldier never gets drunk.

Proof: 16 Beers equals 1 Boer.

(Dispatch from Scottfontein—The Boers captured 16 laagers in quick succession).

16 British equals 1 Boer.

(Dispatch from D. D. Thomsonburg—There are 16 British to one Boer in the Transvaal.)

Take 16 British equals 16 Beers.

Things equalling the same thing equal each other.

Taking out 16, 1 British soldier equals 1 Beer.

Since a British soldier is equal to one Beer, he will not get drunk on it.

R/ Beer i-o
Aqua ad ii-o } Pints.

Sig: From "Poverty Corner" to "Hotel de Splosh" walk once every quarter of an hour from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

DONALD,

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The Shooting Regulations.

—o—

TO BE HUNG UP IN EVERY BARRACK-ROOM.

When soldiers go forth shooting
They shall not be less than four,
With a bugler ever tootling
And two N. C. O.'s—or more.

They shall first receive instructions,
As on parade they stand,
On the heinousness of ructions
With the natives of the land.

On the sanctity of monkeys
And of peacocks and of fowls,
Of doves and mice and donkeys,
Of Elephants and Owls.

They will then be marched by sections
To the Quartermaster's stores,
Where the armourer makes inspections
Of the arms and sights and bores.

No guns will be permitted
That will carry thirty yards,
And the soldiers will be fitted
With little printed cards.

Their names and age and stations,
Their character and size,
A list of their relations
And the colour of their eyes.

Then after admonitions
And the signing of each name,
Having mastered the conditions
They may go in search of game.

In a careful scout-like manner
With tramping martial tread,
With a flaring crimson banner
A hundred yards ahead.

If a bird shall be detected
Which may seem to be shikar,
It first must be inspected
By the nearest tehsildar.

If he shall give decision
That the fowl is lawful game,
Then, aiming with precision,
The squad may shoot the same.

And on the word "cease firing"
The bugle call will sound,
And any bird expiring
May be gathered from the ground.

Each rule and regulation
Will be posted in a frame,
For the welfare of our nation
(And, perhaps, too of the game).

S. C. I. (in the *Civil and Military Gazette*).

Ninety-third Calendar for July 1901.

—o—

1	M.	Marched Varna to Aladyn '54; suffered severely from cholera, fever and dysentery. Territorial scheme introduced, 93rd became 2nd Sutherland and Argyll Highlanders, 1881. Regimental Games, 1900 (1st day).
2	Tu.	
3	W.	
4	Th.	
5	F.	
6	S.	
7	S.	Outbreak of cholera at Peshawar 1862; ninety-three deaths.
8	M.	
9	Tu.	Crossed frontier into Waziristan, 1897; very trying march, resulting in two deaths and many cases of sunstroke.
10	W.	
11	Th.	
12	F.	
13	S.	
14	S.	Arrived Datta Khel, joining 1st Brigade, Tochi Field Force, 1897.
15	M.	Chatham to Windsor, thence to Devonport, 1853. Landed Portsmouth from Crimea, 1856; to Aldershot.
16	Tu.	Reviewed at Aldershot by H. M. Queen Victoria, 1856.
17	W.	Montreal to Quebec, 1846. Glengary Bonnets with dice ordered to be worn. Horse Guards' order, 1851!
18	Th.	Lines of Regiment visited by Queen Victoria and Princess Royal, 1856.
19	F.	Establishment (Service Coys.) raised to 58 Sgts., 20 Drs. 1,000 R. and F., 1854.
20	S.	Advance of 1st Brigade, Tochi Field Force, on Sheranni, 1897.
21	S.	
22	M.	Reconnaissance of Maizar Kots, 1897. Lieut.-Col. G. L. J. Goff relinquished command of 2nd Battalion, 1899, to 1st Battalion. Lieut.-Col. J. H. Campbell assumed command, 1899.
23	Tu.	Arrived Dover from Aldershot, 1856. Pipers' doublets changed from red to green. Lieut.-Col. W. S. Mills relinquished command, 1890.
24	W.	Col. P. D. Trotter assumed command, 1890. Col. Trotter relinquished command 1894. Lieut.-Col J. D. Fetherstonhaugh relinquished command, 1898.
25	Th.	Lieut.-Col Fetherstonhaugh assumed command 1894. Lieut.-Col. G. L. J. Goff assumed command, 1898.
26	F.	Second outbreak of cholera, 1862. Advance of 1st Brigade, Tochi Field Force, on Maizar, 1897; destruction of Kots commenced.
27	S.	Lieut.-Col MacGregor to half-pay, 1838, Robert Spark, Lieut.-Col.
28	S.	
29	M.	Inspection at Canterbury, and Colours presented by D. of Wellington, C.-in-C., 1834.
30	Tu.	
31	W.	Horse Guards' Circular ordering Sergeants to carry fusils instead of pikes, 1830. Gold substituted for silver lace, 1830. White clothing for Regimental Bands, 1830.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant :—No. 3808, Lance-Sergeant J. Allison, "D" Company, dated 3rd May 1901.

To be Corporal :—No. 6063, Lance-Corporal H. Munro, "H" Company, dated 3rd May 1901.

PAY OF RANK.

To be paid Lance-Sergeant :—No. 3885 Corporal E. Mahony, "C" Company, dated 3rd May 1901.

To be paid Lance-Corporals :—No. 5618, Lance-Corporal A. MacMaster, "D" Company, dated 3rd May 1901.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Sergeant Instructor, Calcutta Volunteer Rifles :—No. 1360, Sergeant A. Jeffrey, "D" Company, dated 3rd May 1901.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals :—No. 3927, Bandsman W. Walker, "A" Company, dated 21st May 1901; No. 4339 Bandsman F. Bracey, "F" Company, dated 21st May 1901.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 2d per diem :—

"B" Company.

No. 5042, Dr. D. Gibbon; No. 5456, Pte. R. Bell.

"C" Company.

No. 4198, Pte. J. Ricketts;—No. 4102, Pte. F. Marklew.

"F" Company.

No. 5550, Lance-Corporal F. Risdon.

"G" Company.

No. 4596, Private C. Ryans.

At 1d per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 5050, Pte. J. Britton; No. 5162, Pte. M. Gannon.

"C" Company.

No. 5308, Pte. J. Lowe; No. 5755, Pte. J. Smith.

"D" Company.

No. 5524, Dr. G. Edwards.

"E" Company.

No. 5533, Pte. J. Maclean; No. 6296, Pte Gillatly.

"F" Company.

No. 5982, Pte. J. Muir; No. 6201, Pte. M. Jamieson.

"H" Company.

No. 4574, Pte. J. Martin | No. 4593, Pte. W. Livingstone.
„ 5451, Pte. D. Comries | „ 6378, Pte H. Nevard.
No. 6083, Drummer W. Millar.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service:—

No. 737,	1st class Armourer Sergeant	W. S. Holden.	
„ 3927,	Lance-Corporal W. Walker,	"A"	Company.
„ 3067,	Private D. J. Smith,	"A"	„
„ 3538,	„ J. Farquharson,	"C"	„
„ 3405,	„ F. Hanlon,	"D"	„
„ 3490,	„ R. Dyer,	"F"	„
„ 3506,	„ R. Duncan	"H"	„

To complete twelve years' service with the colours:—

No. 3992,	Private A. Thomson,	"D"	Company.
„ 4313,	„ J. Ferguson	"D"	„
„ 4012,	„ H. MacDonald	"H"	„
„ 4073,	„ J. Gillon	"H"	„

TRANSFERS.

To Punjab-Bengal Unattached List as Head Clerk with the rank of Color-Sergeant :—

No. 5601, Lance-Sergeant E. A. Daniel, "B" Company.

Inter-company :—

No. 6063, Corporal H. Munro, "H" to "D" Company.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

The number 8008 has been allotted to Private R. C. Coventry, "D" Company.

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

Granted 3rd Class Certificates of Education, dated 22nd May, 1901:—

No. 5583,	Lance-Corporal J. Dick,	"A"	Company.
„ 5760,	Private D. Riddock,	"A"	„
„ 4981,	„ P. Malone,	"B"	„
„ 5811,	„ M. MacGinley,	"E"	„
„ 5863,	„ D. Gallagher,	"E"	„
„ 6430,	„ T. James	"E"	„

—:o:—

Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

BIRTH.

Robertsen.—At Ranikhet, on the 14th May 1901, the wife of Quartermaster-Sergeant L. Robertson of a daughter—Mary Winifred.

MARRIAGES.

Crawford—Neil.—At St. Andrew's Church, Bombay, 22nd May 1901, the Rev. J. Henderson officiating, Sergeant Master-Tailor H. Crawford, 93rd, to Ada Caroline, daughter of Mr. Thomas Neal, Woolwich.

Chidley—James.—At St. Andrew's Church, Bombay, 22nd May 1901, the Rev. J. Henderson officiating, Bandsman E. Chidley, 93rd, to Minnie Ada Catherine Rachel Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr. David James, Port Talbot, South Wales.

DEATH.

Murray.—At the Station Hospital, Bareilly on 26th May 1901, No. 5830, Private A. Murray, "H" Company.

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IN HOGSHEADS.

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INVALID'S PORT

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THE THIN RED LINE.

LAHORE: Printed for the Proprietors by the "Civil and Military Gazette" Press.

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JULY. 1901.

The Thin Red Line

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NOW READY.

Vol. VI,

THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 3—Vol. VII. RANIKHET,—JULY 1901. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE weather has been of late so abnormally hot, that one almost looks upon the longed for "monsoon" and her attendant frogs as utter impossibilities, and has caused the last "breeze" to cling affectionately to their *topis*.

Added to the many diseases this roasting atmosphere breeds, we have experienced an extraordinary drought of both drinking and washing water.

Talk about famine in the land of Egypt! Truly there must be hard times coming when baths cannot be had in clean pure *aqua*, but that "after the next man" is the order of the day, yet so it is. Thank goodness, coal fatigues are things of the past. The last man would have, we think, *rather* hard lines.

* * * * *

The Lieutenant-General Commanding Bengal arrived in the station on 1st June, and did not leave until the 18th. Sir George Luck during his visit seemed deeply interested in the progress of the new square at Standing Camp, and by way of identifying himself with the work, he offered a prize of Rs. 60 for the best Football Team of eleven players furnished by the following:—Wing Cameronians, Standing Camp, Right Wing 93rd Highlanders, Left Wing 93rd Highlanders. The matches were played under "Association" rules, and no non-commissioned officers or men were allowed to play who had not worked on the new recreation ground; needless to state the latter qualification was somewhat unnecessary as far as the Battalion was concerned, almost every officer, non-commissioned officer and man having visited the place at least a score of times. All the matches were played-off on the new ground, and the prize was won by our Right Wing Team who beat the Left in the final by four goals to one—a result somewhat unexpected, the Left Wing being the favourites. Fuller particulars of the competition will be found on another page.

* * * * *

It will always be of interest to our readers in later years to remember that Sir George Luck personally kicked-off the first ball played on the new square, and even so far honoured us as to christen the outcome of his own energy and forethought, the "Sutherland Recreation Ground." Perhaps in years to come, when Ranikhet becomes a second Naini Tal, people will recollect that the Ninety-third had a large share in the making of the new recreation ground, as well as having the honour of winning the first sporting competition that came off on it.

* * * * *

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Sir George Luck and his staff witnessed the field day on the 5th June. The "General Idea" was that the rear-guard of a force retiring on Almora, represented by Major Aitken in command of "A" and "G" Companies, had taken up position at Dhulikhet that morning. The advanced guard of a force advancing from Naini Tal endeavours to cut off the rear-guard from its main body. Major Patterson in command of the remaining six companies represented the latter force, but the "Cease Fire" sounded without his having been able to perform the almost impossible task of cutting off his opponent.

"D" and "F" Companies camped out on the race-course on Tuesday, 19th, remaining out until Wednesday morning. To the Battalion lay the unfortunately too novel duty of surprising them during the early hours of the morning.

Parading at 11-45 P.M., they marched towards Upat, and engaged the Military Training Companies' picquets at about 1-30 A.M.; the "Cease Fire" sounding within a half-hour's time.

Returning home on Wednesday morning "D" and "F" Companies gave the Standing Camp a pretty severe lesson on "how *not* to surprise a convoy," a subject in which the 93rd is well versed.

The special idea on Wednesday, 26th, was more strictly reconnaissance than actual close contact. The Military Training Companies formed a line of outposts between "Oakley" and Mr. Parvion's Shop. The Battalion under Captain D. Darroch commenced operations from the road below the Mission House.

* * * *

Major R. L. E. McKerrell has vacated his appointment of Inspector of Gymnasia, Punjab and Bengal Commands, on completion of the usual five years' tenure of office.

We hear that Major McKerrell, although expected to rejoin this Battalion, has sailed for South Africa *en route* to join our first Battalion. What a lot of majors the first Battalion now possess!

* * * * *

Major T. A. Scott, who, on promotion, has been posted to us from the first Battalion, is expected to join some time in August.

* * * * *

Lieutenant A. Elphinston has been granted an extension of sick leave to the 3rd July.

* * * * *

Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell proceeded on short leave towards the end of the month, and Major Stanley Patterson took command in his absence.

* * * * *

Captain H. P. Moulton-Barrett, who recently vacated his appointment of aide-de-camp to the General Officer Commanding Scottish District, has been selected for employment with the Mounted Infantry in South Africa.

* * * * *

Lieutenant Hyslop has taken over command and pay of "F" Company.

* * * * *

Color-Sergeant Ditcham, who went home a few months ago on furlough, has, with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief, been selected to fill a vacancy on the Permanent Staff of the 2nd (Renfrew) Volunteer Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. We wish Color-Sergeant Ditcham every success in his new career.

* * * * *

A Committee to select a site for a long distance Rifle Range assembled during the month. The result of their deliberations we have no means of knowing, but one would scarcely imagine that there could be any difficulty in finding such a place in the sparsely populated country round about Ranikhet.

* * * * *

"C" Company finished their annual Musketry Course on 12th; their average for individual practices is 141, whilst in the collective their percentage is 33. Sergeant Ewan secures the "Star" with the score of 191. Out of a total of 86 men exercised, 41 are marksmen, 40 are 2nd class and 5 are 3rd class shots.

"G" Company commenced on the 14th, and are doing exceedingly well in the individual practices.

* * * * *

There has been quite a "slump" in the promotion of non-commissioned officers during the month. The smart looking young corporal of a few days ago has betaken himself to the Sergeants' Mess, and is learning to play tennis, &c., whilst the equally smart young lance-corporal of the past is beginning to stagger under the weight of a company duty roster, the hall-mark of the advanced grade to which he now belongs.

* * * * *

Owners of dogs had better keep a watchful eye on their four-footed companions just now, and see that they bear all the necessary marks required by the law of the land. Any *kutta* found straying on the roads between June 25th and July 15th, and unable to prove itself "private property," shall, on conviction, be liable to suffer from an overdose of lead. A correspondent suggests that an organised route march of half the dogs belonging to Ranikhet could surely be arranged to pass the Cantonment Magistrate's Office on some day between the above-mentioned dates. A maxim gun judiciously placed on the road above might give beneficial results.

* * * * *

The *Yellow Plume*, "a periodical for the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 20th Hussars," is evidently a venture which augurs success for its promoters. Judging by the contents of a copy to hand we do not hesitate to

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predict for our young contemporary a high position amongst the gradually increasing number of regimental journals.

* * * * *

The payment of the sum of Rupees 232, annas 6, pies 6, has been sanctioned to men of the Battalion for work done at Standing Camp. At the time of writing, beyond allotting a certain amount to each company, nothing has been decided as to how this vast wealth is to be apportioned to individuals. If we may be allowed to make a suggestion we would propose that part of the total amount be used in endowing a few Universities and the residue devoted to procuring a new stock of picks, shovels and barrows for use at the aforementioned place of recreation.

The barrows we would supply would be much lighter and incapable of containing more than a shovelful of earth, the picks would be sharper and a little stronger than a tooth-pick, and the shovels would be of steel, not pig-iron.

The working hours during the hot season have been altered considerably. Two parties of a hundred men in each now form the Battalion's quota to the "fatigue" instead of one party of two hundred men as before. An hour and-a-half's work is all that is expected instead of three hours, the first party parading at 6 A.M., and the second at 7-30 A. M.

There is a project on foot to make the "fatigue" a voluntary one, we believe.

* * * * *

Major J. S. Napier has presented to the Sergeants' Mess a large and handsome "Loving Cup." The gift, which is of massive silver, bears the following inscription: "Presented to the Sergeants' Mess, 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, by Major J. S. Napier, 1874—98."

On behalf of the sergeants we hasten to proffer our most sincere thanks to Major Napier for so precious a memento which will tend to commemorate his long connection with the old Ninety-third.

* * * * *

Now that the "Trooping Season" will soon be upon us again we would like to draw the attention of our readers to the advantages offered by the firm of Messrs. William Watson & Co., Bankers and Shipping Agents, Bombay, a firm of over 34 years' standing. Special concessions are enjoyed by the members of the A. T. A., I. O. G. T. and kindred temperance organisations, of whom Messrs. Watson are the accredited agents.

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For further information we would draw our reader's attention to the advertisement of Messrs. Watson in our advertising columns. Fuller particulars may be had on application to the Head Offices, Bombay.

* * * * *

Major Paterson and Captain Campbell, who returned towards the end of last month from their shooting trip in the Bindra-Nawagarh and Kharian Districts of the Central Provinces, have certainly not been idle *shikaris* as their bags can testify. Major Paterson succeeded in killing a large man-eating tiger for which he is entitled to a reward. Three leopards, two buffaloes, and one black buck also fell to his gun. He appears to have had quite an exciting time with one of the buffaloes, but received compensation in the shape of a very fine head for his labours. Captain Campbell's bag was also excellent, two leopards, two buffaloes, and a sambur being his share of the spoils of the jungle.

———: o :———

Only a Pawn!

—o—

[Founded on the War Picture and dedicated to all who care to read between the lines.]

HE woke from his slumber to life again,
For his lips were parched and dry;
His limbs were racked with the aching pain
Of a shell-wound in the thigh.
The veldt lay silently grim around,
He shouted—the rocks flung back the sound.
And he read in his echoing feeble cry,
That no one was near him to see him die.

* *

He gnashed his teeth as he madly thought
Of how many blunders had been the same;
Entrapped like children by those they sought,
And who, he wondered, would bear the blame?
He wept with rage till his eyes were blind,
At the thought of all he must leave behind.
And the red sun sank in a crimson ball,
Veiling the earth in her nightly pall.

* *

Out of his haversack, red with blood,
He drew with the feverish grasp of pain
Chess-board and pieces, hewn in wood,
Worn by the usage of daily play.
He smiled to himself as he laid them out,
Dreamily moving the men about.
Bathed in a halo of bright moonbeams,
Solving his problem of "Kings" and "Queens."

* *

The night wore on, the moon grew pale,
And darkness fled at the sight of day;
The damp mists rolled from the silent vale,
But the soul of the soldier had passed away.
His chess-board, viewed by the light of dawn
Was empty, *save for a single pawn!*
All heedless, the seething world revolved,
His game was finished, his problem solved

C. B.

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Our Summer Holidays.

—o—

LIFE is indeed worth living—at least since our annual flitting is a thing of the past. The "Kutte" has grown fat on European stew and the Seraph—I am coming to him in good time.

We have been blessed with good weather and a few hail-storms, though naturally enough these latter put in an appearance on a General Holiday.

A few choice spirits have therefore decided that in future the magic word "Holiday" is to be struck off the scale of Parades as being illegal, and therefore treasonable. A "Holiday" is to be observed in exactly the same manner as a flaring Gaff-Bill—with due caution. To be taken inwardly, though very occasionally, great care being taken that when imbibed the joy may not be *too* overwhelming.

When I come to think of it, I have already mentioned the Seraph's "Great Flat Back Remedy."

As I predicted, the Government has refused it, so, in despair, he has sent it to the *Pioneer*.

They will accept it with open arms.

They take any rubbish.

The Seraph has engaged our local spouter to write a new poem on its good qualities with the idea of outrivalling Mother Siegel and her Syrup.

He is, as I said before, an ass!

By the way, our select circle increased by one and—oh happy thought,—by yet another with whom we parted some few months ago.

The prodigal has returned! Let us arise and kill the fatted calf (if the Commissariat possess such a thing!)—for the Down Local Fellow has cast-off his indescribable waistcoat and his Buffalo Bill hat and returned to the bosoms of his joyous companions.

He created in fact quite a *furore*—for in his absence he has studied the art of "cutting a dash" to the nicest nicety.

The Seraph, who was smacking his lips in pleasant anticipation of those stories of thrilling amours, the Great Unwashed tells with such verve, was not disappointed.

How we all longed for the time to come when we could retire upon the railway—with visions of marriage ceremonies and little coffee-coolers!

In the prodigal's own artless platitude:—

"It's p-p-p gentleman's life!"

Talking of platitudes,—I find I have wandered from the point a trifle—a thing I am rather apt to do at times. To revert therefore to the place I started from, I recollect mentioning a new addition to our "school," or rather, not to be too vulgar, "our select society." It came about in this way.

We were seated in a corner of the "Café á la Quiet Booze," ogling with moral satisfaction the Silver Challenge Shield, which adorned the mantel shelf and wondering down in the lowest portions of our interior economies whether or not its presence there denoted a deficit in the Liquor Bar Account?

"As Paul said to Timothy: 'A little wine'—&c., &c.!

With this in our mind's eye we sat, as I before remarked, in our own corner, drinking our nightly cup of—let us for *policy's* sake say "TEA."

The Seraph, for at least the ninetieth time, was telling us one of his "nice" stories of life in Bohemia, and, it was easy to see, hoping against hope that some of us would at least make an attempt to smile.

Alas! There was not a smile among us.

The Kutte was fast asleep with one eye fixed on "G" Company's fighting dog, the other one measuring the capacities of the Seraph's calves.

Then a thunderbolt shattered the threads of the Seraph's insipid twaddle.

Some one said: "why—here's the Lizard"!

This is not a parable—nothing of the sort. The "Lizard" is a positive reality, and when once you have seen him—you can never forget him.

Why we call him the "Lizard," I will presently explain.

Of course, he has other names.

I have heard the Seraph, when in a funny mood, refer to him as "the bloke with the insubordinate moustache."

Now I don't call that nice at all. How can the poor fellow help carrying a bass broom on his upper lip?

I have to continuously reprimand my Seraphic friend for his vulgarity, although he never seems to have improved in the slightest.

Now the "Lizard" is really a first rate chap, and although he may have his little lunacies, he is quite harmless.

That is to say, of course, if appriached in a decent and orthodox manner, he will probably stick you a cup of tea or even lend you a "dib," always supposing that you put on a sufficiently poverty-stricken tone of voice.

If you want to touch his pocket, hang about outside, or peer longingly through the A. T. A. windows; send in urgent messages by everybody who enters, it will give people the idea that he is contracting for a new and patent equipment or being suddenly transferred to the Army Reserve.

This (don't you twig?) is his idea. You will get the dib.

"Vanity of Vanities!" said the Gilded Youth "ALL is Vanity!!"

We—The Seraph, the D. L. C., (for short I will call him Gussie) and I, were once engaged in earnest confab on matters of surpassing mystery.

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It was on this occasion that I first met He of the irreverent whisker, and thence also came his name.

We were talking of Army Reform—and from that, of the days of Adam, who never had any buttons to clean, defaulters to do, and possibly never drew rations for his wife, as historians consider it doubtful whether he ever obtained leave to marry or not.

Gussie, whose mind wanders slightly when talking of the fair sex, broke out in a splutter of brilliant inspiration: "I-I-I-don't th-think there wath an army then, you know. C-c-can't thay I ever heard of one!"

He of the remarkable whisker was at that moment munching a bun and made a frantic effort to swallow it whole in his anxiety to contradict Gussie's innocent remark.

"Not at all" he spluttered, nearly turning black in the face.

If the Seraph had not patted him on the back there would have certainly been a funeral.

I was particularly anxious to hear his theory and requested him, for the good of the community at large, not to die too suddenly. "That is," he said, "quite a misleading statement, as I could prove to you if you like to come to my room. In accordance with Sloppington's Geology and Discoveries in the Ancient, there were not only armies but *we* are irregular descendants from their ranks."

"W—weally now!" Gussie tried to look wise.

"Oh yes"—rattled on the theorist—"it has been positively proved we are the descendants of a vast army of lizards which over-ran—"

Gussie yelled: "What!"

I thought he had sat on a pin—and a bearer outside bellowed *achcha sub!* The Seraph pinched my arm.

"Shut up!" he whispered. "It's all right. Only a fancy—thinks he's a lizard—quite harmless though."

I did shut up.

The Seraph smiled an elastic smile and murmured: "How Sweet!"

Gussie was in the middle of a heated argument.

"Um-um-m was Adam a lizard?"

"Adam"—replied the learned one, "is an ancient word in the Yuccatan Hieroglyphics—meaning "the father of lizards."

"Then *we* must be lizards?" I enquired. "According to the Yuccatan writings—most probably," said the theorist.

The Seraph interrupted.

"Here friend!—Don't you be personal—you'd better fork out your proof."

I might state that at this particular moment I took the opportunity to enquire of the "Lizard" whether he preferred tea or cocoa.

He took cocoa (*not* for the hair) and proceeded to propound his proofs. What they consisted of, goodness only knows—I don't.

I only remember a confused jumble of "Hieroglyphics" and "Yuccatan," and being astonished to hear that at the time of the Flood,—the Admiral of the Fleet, by name Mr. Noah, late of Noah's Ark, Limited, was most conveniently sailing about with his fleet in skirmishing order, looking for what he could pinch!

Gussie suggested that he might have been out "on the mash," but the Seraph thought it more likely that the old gent was out looking for second evidence to put "drunk and striking" against the other lizards, so that they shouldn't disgrace him by claiming relationship with him—in case they got stranded on a desert island.

The Lizard froze up and looked offended.

At any rate, we came to the conclusion that the Lizard would make a brilliant addition to our company. So we sympathized with him and told him we would have liked him a little better if he could only have made us—well—say—descendants of—water-buffaloes, *anything but lizards*. So he thawed a little and said he would consult his Hier (and lower) oglyphics and see what he could do for us.

I got the Seraph on the string the other night to go to a Gaff.

As a rule, he does not care to attend such things, he considers that his morals are already suffering from sufficient corruption, but when I told him that I should scarcely term this a "Gaff" but rather an operatic operation—a selection of *chef d'œuvres*,—and furthermore when Gussie (naturally, with an eye to the fair sex), came in with a dash and flourished three reserved seat tickets under our eyes—the Seraph agreed to go.

He always goes when some one else pays.

Gussie bought a handful of cigars for the purpose of fascinating, he said, "the deah g-girl," and that reminds me.

I am positive that Gussie must have a new lady-love.

His white jacket is to be seen every afternoon, at about 4 P.M., receiving the enthusiastic attention of a skinny bearer.

It is not a common white jacket. Dear me, no! We are quite up-to-date when we go out fly-catching, nothing less than *fine* buff, I can assure you.

We have watched his "figure" swaggering amid the pines, chewing the end of a cigar, and swinging his little crooked stick. Needless to say, we have followed with great caution. In vain—Gussie does not seem to be having any.

We are apparently not destined to know anything about the young lady's misfortunes. General Strongbolo, who has lately, by the way,

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entered the Convalescent Depôt (in a clandestine manner), told somebody in confidence—and somebody told somebody else also in confidence—that he has *seen* the "dear one."

He has drawn out a kind of map on her qualifications:—

Physical features.—Rugged.
Colouring.—Chocolate on chalk ground.
Language.—Baboo.
Parentage.—Urdu.
Trade or calling.—Song and Dance artist.

I wonder what Gussie's Pa will say to such a combination.

But permit me to apologise for leaving my subject.

We took a prominent position at the entertainment—with the proud feeling that *we* had contributed our mite and sat back, waiting to be bored.

Gussie took away with him recollections of every lady in the building, but he told us that he was particularly smitten with a little "any caste at all" sitting under a window, who kept scratching her back as if she had fleas.

Funny thing, how Gussie's dead nuts on "black," isn't it?

There was, however, only one thing that spoilt our evening's amusement. Neither the Seraph nor I knew when to laugh nor when to look solemn. All the sergeants glared at the Seraph when he, poor fellow, quite accidentally gave vent to a piteously melodramatic sigh at quite the wrong moment. They all looked as if they bore him a grudge for not taking a season at Kolabar; whilst Ginger, an estimable young man, who prefers a seat among the "Gawds" to one among the "Puritans," was forcibly ejected for unfortunately roaring out a volley of side-splitting laughter at the precise moment when the audience were held in breathless suspense as to whether the heroine preferred marmalade or fried sole for supper.

The Seraph would not speak to me on the road home. He said, he would never forgive me for so deceiving him.

CAVEAT ACTOR.

———:o:———

Overheard at a Field Day.

—o—

1st Warrior.—Here comes the enemy, let's run.
2nd Warrior.—You don't want to go running away just yet.
1st Warrior.—Oh, yes! I do, or else I shall have to dirty my rifle.

(*They both depart.*)

———:o:———

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and Gordon Highlanders' Graves.

—o—

WITH reference to the following, which we have culled from the *Stirling Sentinel* of May 14th, 1901, we cannot help suggesting that we, as a sister Battalion, should find some means of raising a fund in aid of a cause so deserving of our sympathy, thus keeping green the memory of those brave, though unfortunate, men whom many of us have once called comrades.

Oh noble dead—fanned by the stern breath
Of martial glory, an undying death!
Bare are your earthly graves, and yet,
Who dares to say your comrades can forget?

THE CLUB,
Kimberley, 17th April, 1901.

DEAR SIR,—I have just arrived here from Modder River, after visiting the graves of the A. and S. Highlanders, as also the Gordon Highlanders, who were killed on the battlefield of Magersfontein, and it is a pleasure to me to think that at Modder River there is a gentleman, who, with his good lady, are prepared to safeguard and hold sacred as a trust from God the resting-places of these unfortunate soldiers. Mr. Westerman, maintenance inspector on the Cape Government Railways at Modder River, has undertaken, during his stay there, to keep in order the graves of those who were unfortunately killed on the Magersfontein battlefield on the dark day of December 11th, 1899. Already several monuments, of solid Aberdeen granite, and other marble manufactures, have been erected, but it is only natural to desire that lasting monuments should take the place of the present simple wooden crosses, with names already almost indiscernable. What Mr. Westerman proposes is to carefully safeguard these graves with iron fences and gates, have trees along the walks and flowers over the graves, also an artesian well on the ground for the purpose of regularly watering the trees and flowers. This, as can be imagined, will cost an enormous sum, and while Mr. Westerman has been cordially supported by many Scotsmen in the Colony, support from Scotland and those interested in these regiments who have fallen at Magersfontein is deeply needed. Contributions, either in coin or flower seeds, to Mr. Westerman or myself—to my private address, St. Marie, Stirling, N. B.—shall be gratefully received, acknowledged, and devoted entirely to this purpose. I have had no opportunity of communicating with the officers in command of these regiments, but I am sure, on application, they will testify to Mr. Westerman's patriotism for Scotsmen, although he himself is a Derbyshire man. It has been my privilege to visit the battlefields of Natal, and from Maritzburg onward it is simply a graveyard of British soldiers, where almost in every case monuments have been erected to their memory. Natal, however, is entirely Scotch; Cape Colony is different, hence the reason of our coming forward at this moment and showing our gratitude to those men who have fought and died for us. I am pleased to know only to-day that the Corporation of Kimberley—the Mayor of whom is Mr. Oliver, and whose acquaintance I was pleased to make—are rising to this necessity, and are going to erect monuments for the men who fell in Kimberley. I have with me copies of the graveyards at Modder River, and these I shall gladly send to any who may desire to see same. Believing that this appeal shall meet with Scotland's usual generosity.—I am, yours very faithfully, F. F. HALDANE.

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A Blooming Fraud.

—o—

EVER since my "breeze" came out—the Greasy Paste Draft—— I've said to myself: *I'll* make 'em sit up —— the next Draft —— and I meant it, I can assure you. No wonder, ever since I came out —— with the Greasy Paste Draft—anything, everything I've said has only formed a text to be evolved by the "old tars" of my immediate neighbourhood into "Before you come up." You don't know how it's done? Twig!

"Pretty good suppers now in the Coffee-shop."

Suppers! I've 'ad better suppers in prison; you should 'ave been in Dalhousie to sample wot a supper *can* be like."

"D——d fine beer last night, was'nt it?"

"Beer! too much of a Suez Canal flavour in it for me; if you'd been at Dalhousie, first summer, *that* ——" and so forth.

As I said before it was a matter of maconachie what I dilated on. I would have surprised even Darwin himself to hear how a few innocent remarks on——oh hang it —— shoe laces, lemonade bottles, anything could be evolved into an elaborate essay on Dalhousie. Well! Well!! I suppose we've all to go through the mill sooner or later.

Now as I told you before, I determined to get my own back with the first bally "breeze" that weathered the Bay. I had imaginary Dialogues all arranged. *Dekho:*—

Draftie: "By Jings, we had it rough gaun through the Bay."—A draftie always says "Jings," he learns to say————afterwards.

G. P. Draftie: "Rough! if you'd been on board the 'Dilwara' when *I* came out."

Draftie: By Crivins, yon's a slashin' Coffee-shop at Deolali:—When a Draftie does'nt say "Jings" he says "Crivins."

G. P. Draftie: "Talking about Coffee-shops, you should have seen the Coffee-shop we had first year in Chaubattia.

After this, in accordance with my pre-arranged arrangement, Draftie slinks under his bed, and starts "barking at his blanco-pot."

That was how I expected everything to go off. How vastly different the actual *denouément*.

Here "Ginger," just look after this chap till he gets squared up.

The "Sandy Row Draft" had arrived.

I sized up my future bed-chum. "A *pukka*" "Sandyrow-man" I mentally ejaculated after about half a minutes sizeing, I threw him over a grey-back and an old pair of Waterloo's, showed him the way to the wash-house with the air of a *pukka* "Dalhousieite," and considered I'd done my duty so far.

Towards evening I asked my bed-chum casually if he could do with a supper and pint. He agreed with a *nonchalance* I did not notice much at the time, but thought of——afterwards.

Seated in a quiet corner of the Coffee-shop over our yill we eventually began to wax communicative.

"Fine place that they've got at Deolali, that Coffee-shop, I mean"——I could'nt resist it.

"Coffee-shop! there was no Coffee-shop there worth talking about when I passed through in '99."

Half a minute's silence.

Presently the usual talk under the same circumstances cropped up; the Royal Avenue "Sandyrow," the Botanic Gardens; but needless to remark I now and then got a "quiet 'tion" at my bed-chum with Chaubattia '99.

At the usual time we steered for home; neither drunk, neither sober, quietly conversing, at least I was, my bed-chum was very silent, seemed to have something on his mind.

After the O. S. went round I heard a quiet "Ginger," I turned round, my bed-chum was fumbling about his cleaning kit. "What's up" said I.

I suppose you heard out here about that little affair.

"What affair" I queried, wondering what was coming off.

"Oh that affair of the 21st Lancers, at Omdurman. Oh yes, you must have, you were knocking about Chaubattia at the time."

Why, "I murmured, feeling a bit dizzy."

"Oh, nothing much, only I managed to smick this little bit of a curio out there," at the same time dangling the Egyptian Decoration under my nose.

"Night!"

"Night, I murmured almost inaudibly, and as the poet says somewhere: "Yer could'ave knocked me down wif a strawr."

X. Y. L. O.

———:o:———

Exhibition Game.

—o—

AN exhibition billiard match took place on Saturday, the 29th, between Private Mack, 93rd Highlanders, and Private Morgan, Border Regt. The game was one of 500 points, in which the latter received 125 of a start. The play was not what would be called brilliant, as the breaks at the end of the paragraph will prove. In the earlier period of the game Morgan quite held his own, in fact, by steady and consistent play he obtained 300 when Mack had only got as far as 147; his best piece of play being a break of 18 made with two balls. Mack now warmed himself to his task, and with a series of small breaks rapidly reduced the gap till they stood peals—at 397. Morgan almost immediately after this got away again, with a break of 32, and still playing steadily, passed the 500 mark, with Mack 35 points behind. Result: Morgan, 500; Mack, 465. The figures here stated give the players best breaks:—

Morgan=18, 10, 18, 14, 12, 10, 32.
Mack =16, 15, 13, 39, 16, 16, 18. E. M.

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In aid of the Hospital.

—o—

THE *élite* of the station occupied the boards of our theatre on Thursday and Friday, June 27th and 28th, with a Grand Variety Entertainment. The Concert, which was greatly patronized by the front seats, was in aid of the hospital and doubtless successfully fulfilled the object desired.

The lack of patronage from the gallery, however, is perhaps due to the fact that the proverbial 'gawds' suffer as keenly from boredom as the most *ennuyé* occupant of the stalls, though differing widely from the latter in theatrical taste.

We append herewith a programme. The most taking and original item was, in our very humble opinion, the duet from "San Toy," which received a deserved encore:—

Programme.

March ... ... Band "THE CAMERONIANS"
Song ... "*My Queen*" ... Major TAYLOR. (Blumenthal)
Cello Solo ... "*Begegnung*" Mrs. LAVERTON. (Becker).
Duet ... "*I don't want to play in your yard*" Messrs. SANDEMAN and DOUGLAS.
Song ... "*The Admiral's Broom*" Mr. HYSLOP. "Bevan"
Song ... "*Bonnie Strathyre*" ... Mrs. Wilson. (Accompanied by the orchestra).
Song ... "*The Lifeguardsman*" Master BIRMINGHAM.
Dialogue ... "*The Joint Household.*" Mrs. Tallett—Mrs. GRAHAM. Mrs. Smithers—Mrs. LAVERTON.

INTERVAL OF 5 MINUTES.

Selection by the Band.

Duet ... "*Pretty Little Chince*" (San Toy) Mrs. GRAHAM and Mr. DOUGLAS.
Song ... "*I love you best*" ... Major TAYLOR. (Wellings).
... "*Intermezzo*" ... Mrs. LAVERTON. (Accompanied by the orchestra)
Song ... "*Sclavonic Love Song*" Mrs. WILSON. (Hickley.)
Song ... "*What will be the end of it*" Mr. HYSLOP AND CHORUS.

Follow the Man from Cooks.

Mmes. Darroch, Laverton, Graham and Tate.
Messrs. Birmingham, Hyslop, Herbert and Sandeman.

———: o :———

Hockey.

—o—

A FRIENDLY was played early in the month between "B" Company of ours and "G" of the Cameronians, on the latter's ground at Chaubuttia. A most enjoyable game, followed by a sumptuous collation, fully made up whatever disappointment our men may have felt in losing the game; which only happened after a keen struggle, by one goal to *nil*.

E. M.

What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.

THAT he woke up in the *detained* ward.
That he ken't it wis a native by the colour o' his feet on the flair.
That there's been heaps o' promotion lately.
That there's been bags o' potted heid as weel.
That a *banduk* is awfu' valuable.
That the firing and *shunting* exercises are tae be combined.
That the command "load up" will be substituted for "ready."
That this is the season o' *sharpshooters*, *slowshooters*, and those that canna shoot at a'.
That J. J. spiked the guns.
That he wis *incalculated* against enteric.
That *Corporal* ? hes pit his knife doon on a guid staff job.
That he wanted tae ken whit load a camel eat.
That he thocht it wis private parades and collect the *gumption*.
That he wis helping tae get the *laboratory* ready.
That they looked doon the lum tae see if the watter wis bilin'.
That he is very patriotic.
That he even *writes* Scotch.
That his rifle wis na timed for 100 yairds.
That he wanted tae ken hoo the chap wis gettin' on that wis murdered.
That he laughed in the wrang place.
That he got thrown oot.
That they stoppit for want o' breath.

———: o :———

Phil Sheridan's Story.

—o—

A STORY which General Sheridan was fond of telling at the dinner table, after the coffee had been served and the ladies had retired, went somewhat like this:—

There was a zealous chaplain of the Army of the Potomac, who had called on a colonel, noted for his profanity, to talk of the religious interests of his men. After having been politely motioned to a seat on the chest, the chaplain began:—

"Colonel, you have one of the finest regiments in the Army."

"I believe so," said the Colonel in reply.

"Do you think," pursued the chaplain, "that you pay sufficient attention to the religious instruction of your men?"

"Well, I don't know," doubtfully replied the Colonel.

"A lively interest has been awakened in the—— Massachusetts, the parson went on to say. "The Lord has blessed the labours of his servants, and ten have already been baptised."

"Is that so?" excitedly cried the Colonel, and then turning to the attendant, added, "Sergeant-Major, have fifteen men detailed for baptism immediately; I'll be d——d if I'll be outdone by any Massachusetts regiment."

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Kanikhet Football Tournament.

—o—

This competition, which was inaugurated by Sir G. Luck, came to a conclusion on the 17th instant. Four teams representing the following units entered, *viz.*, Standing Camp, Chaubattia Wing of the Cameronians, and the Right and Left Wings of ours. The matches were well attended on each of the three days by a large number of spectators, among whom, the sprinkling of many bright dresses, told us that the fair sex had extended their patronage on this momentous occasion. At the close of the third day's play, Sir George appropriately named the square the Sutherland Recreation Ground."

FIRST ROUND.

Standing Camp v. *Right Wing*, 93*rd Highlanders*, 13*th June* 1901.—The Camp team won the toss, and, immediately after Sir George Luck had taken the kick, attempted to make good use of their opportunity. Their efforts, however, were rendered nought by the excellent play of Kerr and Scott. The game was not of an exciting character; the *forwards* finishing badly whenever they neared the goal. On nearing half-time, our men obtained a goal, through a slip made by their opponents' *right-back* which gave the *forwards* a clear run to the Kumpoor goal. Throughout the second period, the game still retained the same desultory character that was so marked in the previous half, neither side succeeding in their efforts to score. Result: *Right Wing* 1 goal, *Standing Camp, nil.*

Cameronians v. *Left Wing*, 93*rd Highlanders*, 15*th June* 1901 —This was a much better, and more excitingly contested game than the former. Our men won the toss, and with the help obtained by this piece of good fortune, pressed the Cams. very severely. The Chaubattia lads in spite of the glaring sun with which they had to contend, eased the pressure by a series of excellent runs down the field. Eventually the strain told, and after some lucky saves by the goal-keeper, Wilson hooked the ball out of a *mêlée* and registered the first point for the "Left-half." Play again went in favour of the Highlanders, after this reverse to the Rifles; but shortly afterwards they gave way before the latter, who now seemed to be imbued with new life. After the change of ends the Cameronians played up much stronger, the ball quickly travelled from end to end with both teams working very hard amid the din raised by their supporters. Within fifteen minutes to time Houston, after eluding the middle and back lines of the defence, placed a second goal on for his side. In no way dismayed by this second reverse, the Chaubattia men continued to play very hard, and had the satisfaction of scoring a goal a little while afterwards. Failing in their efforts to obtain another, they had to retire beaten after a good game by 2 goals to 1.

FINAL.

Right Wing, 93*rd Highlanders* v. *Left Wing*, 93*rd Higlanders*, 17*th June* 1901.—This was rather too one-sided to be considered interesting. The Right-half made a slight change in their *forward* rank, which strengthened their side very considerably; the Left, however, were content with the same team which had rendered them such good service in the previous match. The Right won the toss, and aided by a strong sun, kept the Left busily defending their goal. About eight minutes from the start a free kick was granted to the Right which was taken so well by Kerr, that one of the *half-backs* in attempting to clear his goal, had the misfortune to place the ball in his own net. This was augmented by another goal obtained in a similar manner ten minutes later. With a two goals lead the Right crossed over very confident of winning, and set about their work with an intent to increase their majority. The game in the early stage of the second period was equally contested; the Left then gave way, and had to use all their energies in defending the goal from McKenzie and Co. They, however, failed to keep their charge intact as a third was added shortly afterwards. From now to finish, the pace slackened—no doubt, owing to the heavy state of the ground which is not yet quite fit for playing upon—and became uninteresting; the whistle sounding with the score still the same, *i. e.*, Right 3 goals, Left 0.

Right Wing—Goal: Carter; *Backs:* Kerr, Scott; *Half-backs:* McDonald, Wilson Hudgton; *Forwards:* Leitch, Hogg, McKenzie, Cairns, Pollock.

Left Wing—Goal: Maywood; *Backs:* Baker, Wallace; *Half-backs:* Watson, McGowan, Benson; *Forwards:* Wilson, O'Connor, Houston, Montgomery, Turnbull.

E. M.

—: o :—

Football.

—o—

"*G*" *Company*, 93*rd* v. "*H*" *Company*, 26*th* (*Cameronians*).—A friendly match was played by teams representing these two Companies on the parade ground, Chaubattia, on the 18th June.

"G" Company was without the services of two of their regular players, while our opponents were at full muster, and are also supposed to be the best Company team of the Cams.

The ball was set rolling at 5 o'clock, and for the first quarter of an hour the play was of a give-and-take order, both goals being visited in turns; after about twenty minutes' play the Cams. found an opening, and scored what happened to be the only goal of the match. Soon after half-time was called.

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On resuming "G" Company took up the offensive and kept at it till call of time, their goal only being visited once in this half, but try as they might they could not find an opening, so perfect was the defence of the Cams., the goalkeeper at times saving some brilliant shots from our Right Wing. Our *forwards* on the whole were a bit faulty, and did not try for goal often enough. To this could be attributed our loss of the match. One feature of the play was the utmost friendliness of all the players.

Result: "H" Company (Cams.) 1 goal, "G" Company (93rd) *nil*.

G. B.

———:o:———

Billiards.

—o—

THE BILLIARD HANDICAP.

A Billiard Handicap, open to the Garrison, but not widely enough advertised, took place in our own rooms starting on the 18th of the month. All entries and fees to be completed by Monday, the 17th. Considering the number of billiard-players there are in the regiment the entries numbered only twenty-nine, which necessitated the number of prizes to be limited; and we would suggest that the next Handicap be brought more prominently before "The Powers that be."

With the new balls and cues, the table being in excellent condition, the Handicap started on Tuesday, the 18th, the tournament commencing with Privates Pullar and Henderson of "G" Company. Pullar, as will be seen by the results shown below, managed to beat his opponent by 17. Nothing of interest occurred until Kerr of "B" Company met McNicoll of "F." after a very exciting match the Dharsi scrambled into the next round by one.

Perhaps the greatest disappointment of the Handicap was the form shown by Private Morgan of the Border Regiment in his play with Private Edwards of our own regiment. Morgan did not seem to settle down to his game, and "Chick" had an easy win.

The best game of the first round was left to be played between Privates Mack of "A" Company and Atherton of "B." (Mack who "gave" 50 in the Handicap to all those who had entered, with exception of Private Morgan, who received 25 from behind scratch). Mack played rather carelessly in this round, and was very near beaten by the "man with the verdant trousers."

Ballantyne of "H" Company received a bye in the first round.

In the second round the best match was between Privates Grant of "H" Company and Ballantyne of the same Company. After a very exciting game Grant won by a single point. In this round Mack, evidently profiting by his experience in the first round, played with more of his usual judgment and skill, giving us an exhibition of some of his old form, making two rapid breaks of 37 and 49, beating his opponent McNicoll of "F" by 67.

The third round was uneventful with the exception of the match between Privates Hendry of "B" Company and Fyffe of "G." Hendry got home by 4.

In the fourth round Mack had another narrow escape from Hendry, just beating him by 7.

The billiard-room was crowded both outside and in to see the final which came off on Saturday, the 22nd, at 6-30 P.M. The final was between Privates Mack and Grant.

Grant had 10 off scratch which with the 50 Mack "gave" entitled him to a start of 70.

Mack was not long in making up his start, when both played evenly for some time. Mack eventually by a rapid break of 37 just about closed the Handicap, but failed at a difficult cannon. Grant's next miss left Mack the winner of one of the best Handicaps we have had in the Hills.

It is to be hoped that more encouragement (financially) will be given in the future by those in authority, in order to stimulate the most pleasant in-door pastime in the regiment.

Privates Duncan and McAulay acted as handicappers in their usual fair manner; praise is also due to Private Turnbull for the excellent condition of the table.

The following are the results:—

1ST ROUND.

Pte.	Henderson,	"G"	Coy. 133	Pte.	Pullar,	"G"	Coy. 150
,,	Scott	"H"	,, 150	,,	Hawthern	"H"	,, 90
,,	Kerr,	"D"	,, 82	,,	Hendry,	"B"	,, 150
,,	Dailly,	"H"	,, 93	Drmr.	Blake,(scratch)		150
,,	Hughes.	"H"	,, 122	Pte.	Walton,	"E"	,, 150
,,	Kerr,	"B"	,, 140	,,	McNicoll	"F"	,, 150
,,	Craig,	"H"	,, 125	,,	Fyffe	"G"	,, 150
,,	Eccles,	"A"	,, 131	,,	Grant	"H"	,, 150
,,	McArthur,	"G"	,, 150	,,	Reid,	"F"	,, 132
,,	Morgan, 2nd Border Regt.		138	Drmr.	Edwards	"D"	,, 150
,,	Kebble,	"H"	,, 150	Pte.	Rice,	"G"	,, 148
,,	Robinson,	"B"	,, 150	,,	Ritchie,	"E"	,, 141
,,	Atherton,	"B"	,, 140	,,	Mack,	"A"	,, 150
,,	Hiddles,	"D"	,, 150	,,	Duncan	"H"	,, 140
,,	Ballantyne,	"H"	,, a bye.				

2ND ROUND.

Pte.	Hiddles,	"D"	Coy. 144	Pte.	Fyffe,	"G"	Coy. 150
,,	Robinson,	"B"	,, 150	,,	Edwards,	"D"	,, 141
,,	Hendry,	"B"	,, 150	,,	Walton,	"E"	,, 130
,,	McNicoll,	"F"	,, 83	,,	Mack,	"A"	,, 150
,,	Blake,	"D"	,, 150	,,	Pullar,	"G"	,, 139
,,	Ballantyne,	"H"	,, 149	,,	Grant,	"H"	,, 150
,,	Kebble,	"H"	,, 150	,,	McArthur,	"G"	,, 104
,,	Scott,	"H"	Company, a bye.				

3RD ROUND.

Pte.	Mack,	"A"	Coy. 150	Pte.	Kebble,	"H"	Coy. 94
,,	Blake,	"D"	,, 150	,,	Robinson,	"B"	,, 137
,,	Scott,	"H"	,, 113	,,	Grant,	"H"	,, 150
,,	Fyffe,	"G"	,, 146	,,	Hendry,	"B"	,, 150

4TH ROUND.

Pte.	Hendry,	"B"	Coy. 143	Pte.	Mack,	"A"	Coy. 150
,,	Blake,	"D"	,, 126	,,	Grant,	"H"	,, 150

FINAL.

Pte.	Mack,	"A"	Coy. 150	Pte.	Grant,	"H"	Coy. 137

1st Prize Rs. 10, 2nd Prize Rs. 4-8-0.

DONALD.

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Second Billiard Handicap in Corporals' Room.

—o—

FIRST ROUND.

Lce.-Corpl. Montgomery (scratch) beat Lce.-Corpl. McInnis, 50 ... 100 to 77
Corpl. Duff (,,) ,, Corpl. Gillespie, 20 ... 100 ,, 90
Lce.-Corpl. Brisland, 50 ,, Lce.-Corpl. McKenzie (scratch) 100 ,, 93
,, McLuckie, 50 ,, ,, McDonald (,,) 100 ,, 86
,, Stewart, 50 ,, Corpl. Laurie (,,) 100 ,, 68
Corpl. Willcocks, 20 ,, Lce.-Corpl. Scott (,,) 100 ,, 48
,, McGillivray 20 ,, Corpl. Greenland (,,) 100 ,, 82
,, Blacklock (scratch) ,, Lce.-Corpl. Morrison (,,) 100 ,, 70
Lce.-Corpl. Stewart-Wilson (scratch) ,, Corpl. Moat (,,) 100 ,, 82
,, Ellis, 30 ,, ,, Kelly (,,) 100 ,, 86
Corpl. Wilson, 10 ,, ,, Buchanan (,,) 100 ,, 63
,, Jamseson (scratch) ,, Lce.-Corpl. Newall (20) 100 ,, 59
Lce.-Corpl. Gilmour, a bye.

SECOND ROUND.

Lce.-Corpl. Brisland (25) beat Lce.-Corpl. Stewart (scratch) 100 to 91
Corpl. Wilson (scratch) ,, Corpl. McGillivray (15) 100 ,, 93
,, Duff (,,) ,, Lce.-Corpl. McLuckie (30) 100 ,, 83
,, Blacklock (,,) ,, ,, Ellis (15) 100 ,, 92
,, Jamieson (,,) ,, ,, Stewart-Wilson (40) 100 ,, 92
Lce.-Corpl. Montgomery (10) ,, ,, Gilmour (scratch) 100 ,, 80
Corpl. Wilcocks a bye.

THIRD ROUND.

Corpl. Duff (scratch) beat Lce.-Corpl. Brisland (50) 100 to 89
,, Willcocks (40) ,, Corpl. Blacklock (scratch) 100 ,, 57
,, Wilson (20) ,, ,, Jamieson (,,) 100 ,, 48
Lce.-Corpl. Montgomery, a bye.

SEMI-FINAL.

Lce.-Corpl. Montgomery (scratch) beat Corpl. Wilcocks (30) 100 to 75
Corpl. Wilson (10) ,, ,, Duff (scratch) 100 ,, 67

FINAL.

Lce.-Corpl. Montgomery (scratch), beat Cpl. Wilson (20) 200 to 164

—:o:—

Draughts.

—o—

BDR. BURNS, "D" COY., *versus* PTE. MACDONALD, "E" COY.

A match was played between these two players early in the month. All conditions were left to Burns who decided on playing 16 games, 4 each day, instead of nominating each game. The players were to open as they chose.

From the start it was seen that Macdonald was stronger than his opponent, and took advantage of any opening that was offered to him.

Result: Macdonald 7 games, Burns 2 games. Drawn Games 1.

DETAIL.

(1). Double Corner. McDonald's move.

9·14	29·25	4·8	26·19	7·11	22·17
22·18	16·20	22·18	10·14	26·23	31·26
5·9	21·17	7·11	22·18	20·24	Black wins.
25·22	14·21	25·22	14 23	30·26	
11·16	18·15	11·16	27·18	24·27	
24·19	11·18	18·15	2·7	26·22	
8·11	23·5	16·23	31·26	27·31	

(2). Bristol Cross. Burns' move.

11·16	8·11	15·24	14·17	6·10	24·27
23·18	25·22	28·19	21·14	22·17	31·24
9·14	16·20	4·8	10·17	20·24	16·20
18·9	24·19	17·13	29·25	32·28	19·15
5·14	11·15	8·11	17·21	11·16	10·19
22·17	27·23	22·18	25·22	18·14	White wins.

(3). Kelso. McDonald's move.

10·15	9·14	16·20	1·6	20·27	6·9
21·17	25·21	29·25	25·22	31·24	13·6
11·16	6·10	8·11	4·8	14·18	2·25
17·13	22·17	23·19	27·23	23·14	Black wins.

(4). Double Corner. Burns' move.

9·14	17·13	29·25	11·15	21·17	White wins.
22·17	4·8	7·11	28·24	14·21	
11·15	23·19	26·23	8·11	23·14	
25·22	22·15	2·7	31·26	10·17	
8·11	11·18	24·20	3·8	19·3	

(5). Bristol. McDonald's move.

11·16	17·13	7·11	32·23	15·24	26·22	
22·17	3·7	23·18	1·5	28·19	7·11	
16·20	22·17	16 23	31·27	4·8	22·17	
25·22	8·11	18·9	5·14	30·26	White wins.	
7·11	26·23	3·14	27·24	14·18		
29·25	11·16	27·9	11·16	22·15		
11·15	25·22	20·27	24·19	2·7		

(6). Double Corner. Burns' move.

9·14	8·11	5·14	10·17	13·6	17·21	
22·17	24·19	29·25	22·18	2·25	18·14	
11·16	11·16	8·11	6·10	19·16	Drawn game.	
25·22	22·18	25·22	14·18	23·19		
16·20	4·8	14 17	23·14	12·16		
17·13	18·9	21·14	6·9	8·4		

(7). Bristol. McDonald's move.

11·16	25·22	4·8	31·26	14·23	28·19
22·17	9·14	29·25	7·11	27·18	10·14
16·20	22·17	8·11	26·22	16·23	17·10
17·13	11·15	26·23	5 9	24·19	6·24
8·11	23·19	11·16	23·18	15·24	Black wins.

(8). Cross. Burns' move.

11·15	8·11	7·10	5·9	2·9	10·15
23·18	25·22	29·25	26·22	25·22	6·2
9·14	12·16	17·21	9·14	12·16	White wins.
18·11	24·20	28·24	24·19	17·13	
8·15	14·17	3·8	15·24	14·17	
22·17	21·14	32·28	22·18	13·9	
4·8	10·17	8·12	6·9	17·26	
17·13	27·23	22·17	13·6	31·22	

(9). Paisley. McDonald's move.

11·16	27·24	4·11	15·6	1·6	15·11
24·19	16·20	28·24	2·9	18·15	White wins.
9·14	19·15	6·10	22·18	11·18	
22·18	20·27	24·19	16·20	26·22	
5·9	31·24	11·16	32·27	3·7	
25·22	10·19	18·15	7·11	22·15	
8·11	24·8	9·13	29·25	7·10	

(10). Single Corner. Burns' move.

11·15	8·11	5·14	11·16	24·27	6·9
22·18	24·19	24·20	20·11	7·2	5·1
15·22	15·24	1·6	7·16	27·31	23·27
25·18	28·19	26·22	32·28	2·7	1·5
10·15	6·10	6·9	16·20	31·26	White wins.
18·11	22·18	22·18	18·15	7·2	
8·15	9·13	7·10	2·6	26·17	
29·25	27·24	31·26	15·11	23·18	
4·8	10·14	3·7	20·24	14·23	
25·22	18·9	26·22	11·7	21·5	

After this game Burns' withdrew.

G. B.

—:o:—

Not in Ireland.

—o—

A Newly-Appointed French Mayor inaugurated his *regime* by a notice to the following effect:—

On the feast of our patron Saint, the fire brigade will be reviewed in the afternoon if it rains in the morning, and in the morning if it rains in the afternoon.

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Temperance Notes.

SINCE the last communication, respecting the progress made by our Branch in the *Thin Red Line*, we have—we are proud to say—obtained the highest honor that can be given to a regiment (in the temperance world), *i.e.*, become the holders of the "Beatty Challenge Shield" for the year 1901. The Shield is given to the regiment for one year, (unless they again become the holders of it in the following) that has the highest percentage of 12 months' members on the 31st of March of that year. A copy of the form rendered by our Secretary to the Council is under-noted. The holders of the "Shield" up to the present year have been :—The 2nd Derbyshire Regiment, 1893; 1st Gordon Highlanders, 1894; 2nd Middlesex, 1895; 3rd Rifle Brigade, 1896; 2nd Middlesex, 1897; 1st Cheshire, 1898; 1st Middlesex, 1899; 1st (Queen's) Royal West Surrey Regiment, 1900; 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 1901.

The balloting for the "Association Medal" has once more passed. This year's has been won by Lance-Sergeant Sutherland, our worthy Secretary. No better choice could have been made than him, and the person mentioned is in every way a worthy one for this mark of distinction. For the past four years he has been a good working officer, and has had a great share in raising his Branch to that high standard, which has at last brought to them the "Beatty Shield." The voting was thus :—Lance-Sergeant Sutherland 21, Private Boyd 17, Private Oliver 11.

No. of Members affiliated to the A. T. Association on 31st March 1901.

	No.
Under 3 months	58
Over 3 "	51
" 1 year	164
" 2 years	74
" 3 "	54
" 4 "	33
" 5 "	22
" 6 "	17
" 7 "	13
" 8 "	9
" 9 "	3
" 10 "	5
Total number of members of one year's standing and over on the 3rd March 1901.	394
Total number of members on the 31st March 1901.... ...	503
Percentage of one-year members in the Battalion	44·7%

The following members were awarded the below mentioned medals, &c., at the last distribution for total abstinence :—

The "Crookshank" Badge for six months.

Corporal Menzies.	Private Lees.
Lance-Corporal Watt.	" McGregor.
Bandsman Speedie.	" Smith.
" Wilson.	" Wilson.
" Gray.	" Soutar.
Drummer Balfour.	" Anderson.
" Coutts.	" Goff.
" Allan.	" Ure.
Piper Findlayson.	" Hunter.
" Hoey.	" Malone.
" Gunn.	" Willams.
" McKenzie.	" Anderson.
Private Brady.	" Smith.
" Painter.	" Stewart.

"First"-year Medal.

Lance-Corporal Smith.	Private Wilson.
" Gibson.	" McDonald.
" Stewart.	" Sear.
" Wylie.	" Park.
Bandsman Fraser.	" Halliday.
Drummer Seaton.	" Riddock.
" Stevens.	" Dale.
Private Leith.	" Duncanson.
" McLaren.	" Smith.
" Pullar.	" Smith.
Private White.	

The "Lockhart" Bar for two years.

Lance-Corporal Alder.	Private Grant.
Private Campbell,	" McIntyre.
" McGinley.	" Brodie.
" McLaren.	" McArthur.
" Paton.	" Roberts.
" Robson.	" Thorne.
Private McMillan.	

The "Beatty" Star for three years.

Corporal Morrison.	Private Rastall.
Bandsman Yeo.	" Donelly.
Drummer, Cridland.	" McLachlan.
" E. Dunne.	" Lawrence.
" C. Dunne.	" Gordon.

The "Excelsior" Bar for four years.

Lance-Sergeant Laurie.	Private McCreadie.
Corporal Allison.	" Montgomery.
Lance-Corporal Risdon.	" Forbes.
Bandsman J. Dunlop.	

The "White" Star for five years.

Lance-Sergeant Lawrie.	Private Brown.
Bandsman McGeechan.	" Duncan.
Private Coyle.	" Patterson.
" Devlin.	" Booth.
Private McCreadie.	

The "Sixth"-year Shield.

Private Harris.	Private Harrison.

———:o:———

E. M.

Ho Bobberjee!

COME back, dear "Bob," come back to me;
Forgive, forgive the cold disdain
With which I scorned your "*Mystery*,"
Ah "Robert" never more again!
Ho Bobberjee!

At breakfast, dinner time and tea,
My thoughts, dear "Bob," revert to you;
Once more you microbed dix I see,
I hear your whispered "*Karrestoo*;"
Ho Bobberjee!

Dear "Bob" what would I give to see
A "*masterpiece*" before me now?
But "Bob" the reigning powers decree,
So you and I must humbly bow;
Ho Bobberjee!

Ah "Bob" I miss you now at tea;
Your "*Rootekake*" with currants all through;
Dear "Bob" how rude it was of me
To say you sneaked it from Kaloo;
Ho Bobberjee!

He has an appetite like three
This new "Bobberjee" I've got;
You always left a half for me;
This———'Scoffs' the lot;
Ho Bobberjee!

Now since they've parted you and me
They say the microbes all have gone;
Wise dodgers too; this "Bobberjee"
He would'nt leave enough for one;
Ho Bobberjee!

JINGER.

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Ninety-third Calendar for August 1901.

—o—

93rd Sutherland Highlanders embodied at Inverness, 1800.

"*Sutherland News*" first issued, Dagshai, 1892.

1 S. Embarked Troopship "*Resistance*," Canada, for England, 1848.
2 S. Aldershot for Windsor.
3 M.
4 Tu. Colours at present carried by the battalion presented by Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland in the Queen's Park, Edinburgh, 1871; old colours carried through Mutiny Campaign sent to Dunrobin.
5 W.
6 Th.
7 F. Outbreak of cholera at Jhansi, 1869; 11 deaths.
8 S.
9 S. "*Belleisle*" arrived Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, 1897; first intimation of outbreak of Indian Mutiny.
10 M. Colonel H. W. Stisted, C.B., Major-General, 1864. F. W. Traill-Burroughs to command, 1864.
11 Tu. Weedon to Portsmouth, 1852. Head-quarters arrived Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, *en route* for China, 1857. Destination altered to India owing to outbreak of Mutiny.
12 W.
13 Th. Sports of Tochi Field Force at Sheranni 1897; won, Tug-of-War and Khud race.
14 F.
15 S. Disembarked Plymouth, from Cape of Good Hope, 1814.
16 S.
17 M. Darbar at Sheranni, Waziristan, 1897.
18 Tu.
19 W.
20 Th.
21 F.
22 S.
23 S. First column for Khaza Valley left Sheranni, 1897.
24 M.
25 Tu.
26 W.
27 Th.
28 F. Return of Khaza column to Sheranni, 1897.
29 S.
30 S. Arrived Leith from Stirling, 1848.
31 M. Disembarked Leith from Canada, 1847. Embarked s.s. *Terrible*, Varna for Crimea, 1854.

——:o:——

Mother.

—o—

Who always wears a worried look
And does his "orderly" per book.
With inward tremulo and shake
For fear he make some dread mistake.
Why—"Mother!"

——:o:——

Overheard at a place of Rendezvous.

—o—

Maud.—Have you got the ammunition keys?
Ethel.—Yes, I have them in my pocket.
Maud.—You should not have them in your pocket. They should be locked in the ammunition box.

Regimental Gazette

Promotions.

To be Color-Sergeants.—No. 2516, Sergeant J. Hay, "A" Company, dated 5th May 1901; No. 3116, Sergeant W. R. Weller, "H" Company, dated 1st June 1901.

To be Sergeants.—No. 3138, Lance-Sergeant W. Fawcett, "E" Company, dated 3rd May 1901; No. 4590, Lance-Sergeant J. Watson, "F" Company, dated 5th May 1901; No. 2736, Corporal W. Hall, "G" Company, dated 7th May 1901; No. 4906, Lance-Sergeant J. Hearn, "G" Company, dated 29th May 1901; No. 4805, Lance-Sergeant W. Norrie, "C" Company, dated 1st June 1901.

To be Corporals.—No. 3548, Lance-Corporal C. Greenland, "A" Company, dated 3rd May 1901; No. 5163, Lance-Corporal J. Allan, "D" Company, dated 5th May 1901; No. 3378, Lance-Corporal F. Lynch, "F" Company, dated 7th May 1901; No. 5645, Lance-Corporal H. Bracken, "C" Company, dated 29th May 1901; No. 4878, Lance-Corporal J. MacLachlan, "H" Company, dated 1st June 1901.

Pay of Rank and Establishment.

To be paid Lance-Sergeants.—No. 4805, Corporal W. Norrie, "C" Company, dated 2nd May 1901; No. 5219, Corporal M. Sutherland, "F" Company, dated 5th May 1901; No. 3344, Corporal A. E. Lawrie, "F" Company, dated 29th May 1901; No. 5230, Corporal D. Yardley, "E" Company, dated 29th May 1901; No. 4567, Corporal D. Inglis, "G" Company, dated 1st July 1901.

To be paid Lance-Corporals.—No. 5853, Lance-Corporal J. Brown, "G" Company, dated 3rd May 1901; No. 6342, Lance-Corporal W. Williamson, "G" Company, dated 5th May 1901; No. 5182, Lance-Corporal T. Morrison, "B" Company, dated 29th May 1901; No. 5280, Lance-Corporal G. McLuckie, "H" Company, dated 7th May 1901; No. 5390, Lance-Corporal A. Stewart, "B" Company, dated 1st June 1901; No. 5827, Lance-Corporal J. B. Clarke, "F" Company, dated 6th June 1901.

Antedated.

To be Sergeant.—No. 3808, Sergeant J. Allison, "D" Company, dated 17th April 1901.

To be paid Lance-Sergeant.—No. 3885, Lance-Sergeant "E" Mahoney, "C" Company, dated 17th April 1901.

To be Corporal.—No. 6063, Corporal H. Munro, "D" Company, dated 17th April 1901.

To be paid Lance-Corporal.—No. 5618, Lance-Corporal A. McMaster, "D" Company, dated 17th April 1901.

Appointments.

To be Band Sergeant.—No. 2736, Sergeant W. Hall, "G" Company, dated 11th June 1901.

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To be Band Corporal.—No. 2810, Corporal W. Willcocks, "D" Company, dated 11th June 1901.

To be Drummer:—No. 7611, Boy R. S. Gunn, "D" Company, dated 10th June 1901.

To be Bandsman.—No. 5566, Private H. Wilson, "D" Company, dated 1st June 1901.

To be Drill Sergeant.—No. 5530, Sergeant S. Gurney, "A" Company.

To be Acting Commissarial Sergeant:—No. 5853, Lance-Corporal J. Brown, "G" Company.

To be Pioneers.—No. 5760, Private W. Riddock, "A" Company; No. 5656, Private A. MacIntyre, "A" Company.

To be Acting Pioneer.—No. 5536, Private J. Boyd, "C" Company.

To be Acting Pipers.—No. 5844, Private J. Burns, "A" Company; No. 6537, Private G. R. MacKenzie, "A" Company; No. 7419, Private W. Smith, "B" Company.

To be Dairyman.—No. 5540, Private D. Lamont, "D" Company.

To be Clerk in the Quartermaster's Stores:—No. 7082, Boy W. Allan, "A" Company.

Good Conduct Pay.

At 2d. per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 3856, Pte. P. Crosbie. | No. 3556, Pte. J. Black.
No. 3924, Pte. H. MacMillan.

"D" Company.

No. 3992, Private A. Thomson.

"E" Company.

No. 4618, Pte. J. Adams. | No. 4706, Pte. G. Bain.
No. 4715, Private J. Miller.

"H" Company.

No. 4380, Pte. T. Cameron. | No. 5464, R. McNee.
No. 5478, Private J. Daily.

At 1d. per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 5658, Pte. A. Yates. | No. 3896, Pte. A. MacLennan.

"B" Company.

No. 5439, Private C. Morrison.

"E" Company.

No. 4638, Private A. Bowie.

"F" Company.

No. 5915, Private T. Black.

"G" Company.

No. 5828, Private D. Sinclair.

"H" Company.

No. 5466, Pte. J. Burns. | No. 5763, Pte. R. Allison.
No. 6464, Private F. Mangan.

Educational Certificates.

Granted 2nd Class Certificates of Education, dated 22nd May 1901:—

No. 5490,	Lance-Corporal	S. Smith,	"C"	Company.
„ 5548,	„	„ J. MacDonald,	"C"	„
„ 5865,	„	„ F. Johnstone,	"F"	„
„ 5908,	„	„ M. MacKenzie	"G"	„
„ 5844,	Drummer	J. Burns,	"A"	Company.
„ 7611,	„	R. Gunn,	"D"	„
„ 6664,	„	E. Dunne,	"E"	„
„ 5685,	Private	F. Morrison,	"A"	„
„ 4979,	„	M. Mossman,	"B"	„
„ 5533,	„	J. MacLean,	"E"	„
„ 5898,	„	A. Dickson,	"G"	„
„ 5428,	„	T. Brown,	"H"	„

Class of Instruction.

Reported as proficient in Stretcher-bearer duties, dated 3rd June 1901:—

No. 6202,	Lance-Corporal	J. MacInnes,	"G"	Company.
„ 5599,	Private	R. Johnstone,	"A"	Company.
„ 4627,	„	H. Walker,	"A"	„
„ 5637,	„	A. Foster,	"A"	„
„ 5662,	„	T. Jones,	"A"	„
„ 5284,	„	A. MacIntyre,	"B"	„
„ 5745,	„	J. Burns,	"C"	„
„ 5553,	„	W. Mackay,	"C"	„
„ 5523,	„	J. Geddes,	"C"	„
„ 5554,	„	M. Sharp,	"C"	„
„ 6168,	„	M. Comrie,	"D"	„
„ 6179,	„	J. Davidson,	"F"	„
„ 6266,	„	J. MacLaren,	"F"	„
„ 5697,	„	P. MacDonald,	"G"	„
„ 6336,	„	A. MacKinnon,	"G"	„
„ 5959,	„	D. Cattanach,	"H"	„
„ 5987,	„	W. Ferguson,	"H"	„

Re-engagements and Extensions.

To complete twenty-one years' service:—

No. 3344, Lance-Sergeant A. E. Laurie, "F" Company.

To complete twelve years' service with the colours:—

No. 5230, Lance-Sergeant D. Yardley, "E" Company.

Transfers.

Inter-Company:—

No. 4484,	Sergeant	P. G. Matthew,	"F"	to	"G"	Coy.
„ 4806,	„	J. Hearn,	"G"	„	"H"	„
„ 2736,	„	W. Hall,	"G"	„	"E"	„
„ 4805,	„	W. Norrie,	"C"	„	"F"	„
„ 2810,	„	W. Willcocks,	"D"	„	"G"	„
„ 3548,	Corporal	C. Greenland,	"A"	„	"E"	„
„ 5163,	„	J. Allan,	"D"	„	"F"	„
„ 3378,	„	F. Lynch,	"F"	„	"D"	„
„ 5645,	„	H. Bracken,	"C"	„	"G"	„
„ 4878,	„	J. MacLauchlan,	"H"	„	"C"	„
„ 7611,	Drummer	R. S. Gunn,	"D"	„	"A"	„
„ 5656,	Pioneer	A. MacIntyre,	"A"	„	"H"	„
„ 5594,	Actg. Piper	J. Mac Gillivray,	"B"	„	"E"	„
„ 4650,	Private	D. Hutchieson,	"E"	„	"B"	„

Number Allotted.

The number "8042" has been allotted to Private C. Cahill, "A" Company.

Change of Name.

No. 6190, Private G. Taylor assumes the name of Griffith Ellis.

Taken on Strength.

Transferred from 2nd Cameron Highlanders, with effect from 5th May 1901:—

Private W. Maclay, and posted to "D" Company.

Transferred from 2nd Connaught Rangers, with effect from 1st June 1901:—

Private C. Cahill, and posted to "A" Company.

Struck off Strength.

Posted to Permanent Staff, 2nd Volunteer Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, with effect from 1st June 1901:—

No. 1438, Color-Sergeant H. Ditcham, "F" Company.

Transferred to Punjab-Bengal Unattached List for employment as Sergeant-Instructor in the Calcutta Volunteer Rifle Corps, with effect from 3rd May 1901:—

No. 1360, Sergeant A. Jeffrey, "D" Company.

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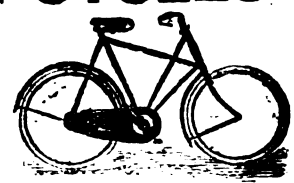

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Vol. VI,
THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 4—Vol. VII. RANIKHET,—AUGUST 1901. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

TO those of the Battalion, and there are still many, who knew our late Bandmaster Mr. James Grant, the news of his decease after only a few days' illness will come as an unpleasant surprise. When he left us towards the end of 1894, Mr. Grant was, comparatively speaking, quite a young man, in appearance at least. Ten years, out of thirty in the service of his country, he spent in the Ninety-third as Bandmaster, during which time he brought the band to a high state of efficiency by his painstaking and judicious training.

To *Lloyd's Weekly* we are indebted for the following:—

A DEATH IN DAN GODFREY'S BAND.

A much esteemed musician, Mr. James Grant, a member of Lieut. Dan Godfrey's band now playing on the Palace pier, Brighton, died on June 8, after only a few days' illness, of peritonitis following on a chill. He was educated in the Duke of York's School. At the age of 14, he entered his father's regiment, the 92nd Gordon Highlanders. He showed such unusual talent for a boy that the bandmaster sent him to Kneller hall, where he quickly became solo clarionet player, and a favourite pupil of the late professor, Mr. Lazarus. After rejoining his regiment he had to shoulder his rifle, as the regiment was ordered to Afghanistan. Mr. Grant went all through the three years' arduous campaign by the side of General Macdonald, who was then sergeant in the Gordons. He was also present with the Gordons in the first Boer war in 1881, and only by an accident was not present at the fatal affair of Majuba Hill. Back in England, he returned to Kneller hall to study for a bandmastership. He was made sergeant-major, and eventually passed out the top of his class, and was appointed bandmaster of the 93rd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. After his retirement from the Army Mr. Grant joined Lieut. Dan Godfrey's celebrated band, and toured through the United States. He has left a considerable amount of money, and the only relation he had was a brother, whom he endeavoured to trace without success. He did not make a will.

* * * * *

The long looked-for and much-delayed monsoon broke over Ranikhet on the evening of the 6th July. For the next five or six days it rained almost without intermission, but latterly it has been more moderate, and it is now possible to get a few hours' sunshine out of the twenty-four. Out-door amusements are of course at a standstill, a walk round the roads being about all that can be managed in the way of recreation. The evening stroll does not gain in popularity, however, when one's path looms through a damp, dispiriting fog enlivened by the sweet, harmonious music of countless monsoon frogs.

* * * * *

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Captain MacKenzie has been gazetted to his majority on the retirement of Major Scott, and 2nd Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean has secured his Star on the appointment of Lieutenant Clark to the Adjutancy of the 1st Battalion. Our congratulations to both on their promotion.

* * * * *

Lieutenant O. C. Herbert at an examination held on 11th May 1901, passed in subject (*c*) (*d*) and (*g*) for promotion to the rank of Captain, (distinguished in Military Law). Authority, G. O. C. C. 508 of 1901.

* * * * *

The Government of India have decided that British soldiers on the Indian Establishment, when on field service, shall be granted "messing allowance" at the rate of 3 annas per diem, instead of the allowance of 2 annas, 3 pie per diem drawn in cantonments. This sanction will cover the case of British soldiers employed with the Indian units in China.

* * * * *

Private R. Robertson of our 1st Battalion had the honour of receiving his South African Medal from the hands of the King at the memorable "presentation of medals" on the Horse Guards' parade on 12th June. He appears to have been the only representative of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders present at the function.

* * * * *

Color-Sergeant Bates has been selected to fill a vacancy on the Permanent Staff of the 5th Volunteer Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

* * * * *

According to instructions recently received scouts of British and Native Infantry Regiments are to be permitted to wear a badge (S. within a wreath) at the expense of the corps, except when on field service or manœuvres.

* * * * *

Major Stanley Paterson has been granted leave of absence from 13th July 1901 to 13th January 1902, and took his departure for Home during the month. Major F. M. Aitken has been appointed officiating second in command *vice* Major Paterson on leave, and Lieut. J. B. McPherson has taken over pay and command of "G" Company *vice* Major Aitken.

* * * * *

Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean is granted an Instructor's special certificate of signalling and Corporal T. Atkinson, "H" Company, an Assistant Instructor's certificate. Both certificates are dated 6th July 1901.

* * * * *

Lance-Corporal T. Hamill, "A" Company, passed an examination held at Lucknow on 29th March 1901, qualifying him for the appointment of Acting Schoolmaster, and is granted a certificate. Authority, D.O. 503, 25th July 1901.

* * * * *

Sergeant A. Jeffrey, who left the Battalion a few months ago to take up a second class instructorship in the Calcutta Volunteer Rifles, has secured a much better appointment. He is now a first class Instructor to the Cawnpore Volunteer Rifles, the Corps to which two other Sergeants of the NINETY-THIRD, Sergeant A. MacDonald and Sergeant C. Clarke, are attached.

* * * * *

"G" and "A" Companies finished their annual course of musketry during the month. The first named exercised 98 men, 44 of whom secured the gold guns, the remaining 54 being second class shots. The figure of merit is returned as $\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{0}\frac{1}{1}$, a good return for a strong company.

"A" Company's figure of merit is $\frac{1}{5}\frac{1}{4}\frac{7}{}$, and out of a total of 90 men exercised 56 are returned as marksmen, 33 as second class and 3 as third class shots.

"Pihla" Company has evidently acted up to its reputation as *the* best shooting company in the battalion, and its figure of merit will take a lot of beating. Good old "Blind Troop!"

* * * * *

According to an order recently issued from Head-quarters "Ribbons only of medals and decorations will be worn with khaki uniform, and with white uniform except when it is worn in Review Order."

* * * * *

Captain Tweedie, on return from leave on 16th July, took over pay and command of "H" Company from 2nd-Lieutenant Langton. As Captain Tweedie spent his leave in Kashmir we trust that it is not too much to hope that an account of his adventures whilst sojourning in that delightful "Paradise of the Globe-trotter" will be forthcoming from his ready pen.

* * * * *

Lieutenant McPherson, Sergeants Stubbs and Arnott have returned from the School of Musketry at Pachmari. The two former were students, and both passed out well, Sergeant Stubbs getting a "distinguished." Sergeant Arnott, as mentioned in a previous issue, was an Instructor, and had rather a difficult task in getting released from his servitude. The reputation of the regiment was worthily upheld by our Musketry Sergeant, who made the fine score of 204 points in the new course, the highest in the school.

Lieutenant Akers-Douglas and Sergeant Forbes are the selected candidates for the next class.

* * * * *

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Sergeant Watt and a party of fourteen men returned about the beginning of the month from Bareilly, where they had been attached to the 71st Field Battery for a course of instruction in the duties of Mounted Infantry.

Although we did not hear of it before, extensive cavalry (horse or rider?) manœuvres have evidently taken place in and about Bareilly during the location there of our gallant "Mounted Foot."

* * * * *

2nd-Lieutenant K. D. M. Henderson, Unattached List, joined the Battalion on 27th July to perform the usual twelve months' training with a British Regiment prior to joining the Indian Staff Corps. He has been attached to "H" Company.

* * * * *

"Sashes are in future to be worn by all Staff Sergeants and Sergeants in khaki Drill order and on duty generally, but will not be worn when walking out, at manœuvres, or on field service."

To our unaccustomed eyes the wearing of the sash with khaki seems to be a step in the wrong direction. However, if the idea is to make a Sergeant conspicuous, the result is certainly a success.

* * * * *

The following extract from a District Order should gladden the hearts of a few—too few, alas, —of the Battalion:—

"The Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Bengal, is pleased to sanction the wearing of the South African Medal ribbon by those officers, non-commissioned officers and men who will receive the Medal when issued":—

Only a little bit of ribbon, but how proud we all are to be able to sport it!

* * * * *

2nd-Lieutenant S. Langton has proceeded to join the new signalling class forming at Kasauli on the 3rd August. 2nd-Lieutenant R. R. Forbes has taken over Command of the Convalescent Depôt, *vice* 2nd-Lieutenant Langton.

* * * * *

Captain Johnston-Stewart had the honour of commanding a detachment of the 2nd Central Africa Regiment recently inspected by His Majesty the King.

* * * * *

The Rev. Mr. Thomson has returned from his trip to Scotland, and is looking extremely well. The sea-voyage and a breath of his native heather have evidently done him much good. We take this opportunity of welcoming Mrs. Thomson to the NINETY-THIRD.

* * * * * * *

We hasten to proffer our congratulations to Sir Alfred Gaselee, K.C.B., on his well-earned promotion to the rank of Major-General in recognition of his invaluable services as Commander-in-Chief of the China Expeditionary Force.

* * * * *

As predicted in our last issue, the Standing Camp, or rather, we should say, the "Sutherland Recreation Ground" fatigue, has become a voluntary *recreation*! Remuneration at the rate of Rs. 8 per thousand cubic feet removed await the efforts of the industrious.

* * * * *

The usual weekly manœuvre parade has of late, owing to the uncertainty of the weather, officers absent on garrison classes or boards, and various other causes, developed into a common or garden route march, varied a little by crowning heights *en route* and minor tactical operations.

* * * * *

Large swarms of locusts, flying in a northerly direction, passed over Ranikhet during the month. Their sojourn among the bleak barren hills to the north has been but brief, to-day, the last day of the month, heralding the return of the mighty army to the warmer and more congenial plains. During their first visit the locusts made no attempt to settle, but they seem inclined to do so this time, though there is but little to tempt them to linger in the vicinity of Kumpoor's barren hill.

* * * * *

"Keep your eye on Paisley." Readers of the "*Thin Red Line*" will be reminded of Lord Beaconsfield's well-known saying by the following anecdote of our 4th Battalion (Paisley Militia), told by a Paisley doctor, lately returned from South Africa in the course of an interview, to the representative of a Paisley Newspaper:—

"In the course of his march up country, Dr. Bruce came across the Paisley Militia more than once. They were having no end of hard work, and were a very useful body indeed. A good story about the 4th Argylls was current in Africa, for the truth of which, however, the doctor will not vouch. De Wet, it appeared, had brought down a commando to the vicinity of a small town which they were holding. At night he sent some of his scouts towards the town to find out, if possible, what troops were in garrison. After a short absence, they returned perspiring and breathless, and all that their leader was able to gasp to De Wet was—"For God's sake, clear out; it's the Paisley Militia."

* * * * *

The latest news to hand of the whereabouts of our 1st Battalion locates it, on the 31st May, at Carolina, south-east of Pretoria. It

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was then on the trek, clearing the country around of supplies and bringing in Boer families to the refuge camps; nothing very exciting, a small skirmish now and then, and a few prisoners taken. Color-Sergeant Wight, late of "G" Company, had joined with the 2nd Volunteer Service Company, and related having met 2nd-Lieutenant Stonor at Bronkhorst Spruit, Color-Sergeant Wight's Company of Volunteers relieving 2nd-Lieutenant Stonor's Company of King's Own Scottish Borderers at that place.

Our comrades of the NINETY-FIRST are no doubt glad to be on the move again after their enforced inaction at Rustenburg, where for nearly three months they were practically invested by the Boers. To hold Rustenburg and Oliphant's Nek with 1,400 men entailed severe duty, the outposts being permanent. Guarding Oliphant's Nek were two hundred men and the remainder of the troops held the town. The garrison was composed of one Battery of Artillery, the NINETY-FIRST, one hundred men of the Australian Rifles and a few Departmental units. Our correspondent feels aggrieved that General Babington should have smashed up the Boer Commandant Delarey who was supposed to be on his way to attack Rustenburg when he fell foul of the British General. Had he left Delarey to run his head against the Argyllshire lads that dashing individual would no doubt have been much surprised, and it would have broken the almost unbearable monotony of their lives at that time.

Most people have now given over predicting an early cessation of hostilities, so we will not add to the miseries of the time-expired by speculating to that end either. Unless those in authority intend giving us a "look-in" we most heartily wish that it was over and our comrades enjoying a well-earned rest after their twenty months' experience in the field.

* * * * *

On looking back at past records we are happy to notify, for our readers' benefits, that last month's paper for the first time at least since the regiment's stay in Nowshera was ready for publication before the end of the month. This is as it should be, and we hope in future to make such arrangements as will keep our monthly issue up to date.

———— :o: ————

Errata.

—o—

Page 24, column 1, line 46, for *ten men* substitute *nine men.*

Page 29, column 2, line 19, for *four goals to one* substitute *three goals to love.*

After.

—o—

I SEE him now as to-day he stood
When we charged; our souls athirst for blood,
Charged through the murderous shot and shell
Like devils freed from the flames of hell;
Red blood and vengeance our souls desire,
On! on through the belching flames of fire.
Blood! blood and vengeance or gory bed,
On through the dying wounded, and dead.
God pity them now as they stagger and reel,
Slaking the thirst of the venging steel!

As he stood to-day I see him now,
The clustering curls on his fair young brow,
No shade of fear in his steadfast glance
At levelled bayonet, sword or lance:
A parry, a lunge, the lurid plain
Receives yet another life-blood stain;
Why Heaven of all the hell-fired line
Should the thirsting lusting steel be mine:
As he fell there dead I can see him now,
The death-dew clamming his pallid brow.

There is peace to-night in heaven's high dome,
But still to my soul no peace can come;
I think of some heart bereaved to-night,
That will find no balm in God's starlight,
Crying aloud in despair to God,
For the stripling form laid 'neath the sod:
Ah God of the silent starlit skies,
Send sleep to my horror-visioned eyes;
As he lay there dead I can see him now
The death-dew clamming his pallid brow.

L. F.

———— :o: ————

Military Plagiarism.

—o—

"There is no new thing under the sun," and it is not unlikely that the wise man usually credited with the coinage of the saw was guilty of plagiarism. "The paragraph in last Wednesday's 'St. James's Gazette' regarding Lord Kitchener's blockhouses reminds me (writes a correspondent of that journal, who signs himself 'Apropos') that others besides his lordship of Khartoum have benefited from the brains of former military geniuses.

"The formation in which our infantry prepare for cavalry is a gift by Sir William Wallace to modern tacticians. Previously to Wallace's stroke of genius foot soldiers had met their mounted enemy loosely, and had in consequence been almost invariably ridden down and destroyed. In 1298, at Falkirk, however, when Wallace was attacked by King Edward, the defender arranged his men (who were armed with long spears) in four circular bodies, the archers being placed between the circles. Thus the onset was met more firmly. Although the formation—then called the schiltron—was of no avail on the day that it was first used by its author, it has lived to confound hordes of men whose numbers should have meant success. The 'squares' which saved the British columns in the Soudan are a survival of Sir William Wallace's 'schiltrons.'"

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His Retribution.

—o—

A STUDY.

THE tall, well-groomed man in a back row of the stalls was mopping his brow with a scented kerchief, whilst the sweat was pouring from his high forehead and the spirit of intense agony filled his soul.

For over the shimmering footlights, into the gloom of the silent theatre, the players were wafting the story of his own life—little deeming how nearly they touched the chords of his direst sin—nor revived the recollections of his dreaded past.

He feasted his unwilling eyes on every detail of this new tragedy that had taken the theatrical world by storm and, as he gazed, old memories thronged his wandering mind.

His father's library replaced the painted scene, and with the imaginative instincts of a hunted convict he forged once more his father's name to the cheque which he had so sorely needed.

Once more he enacted the cunning falsities which had fastened suspicion on his younger brother, driving him from home into exile and leaving himself the heir to all his father's wealth.

His brain was in a whirl. They were fools; they must be stopped at all hazards—they were giving to the wide world the wretched secret he had buried far—

He laid a trembling hand on the arm of his *fauteuil*.

The curtain fell on the second Act amid prolonged applause, the spell was broken and his eye fell on the gaudy programme.

A third and fourth Act were to come.

The acting was splendid but—no. he could not bear it.

He rose and staggered to the bar.

"Ghastly!" he murmured and gulped down a drink.

A voice at his elbow caused him to start.

"Dr. Mornington, sir?"

He nodded faintly.

"A cablegram, sir—the boy is waiting."

He opened the envelope with a shaking hand. The message read:—

"*Ronald Mornington severely wounded Magersfontein.*"

A horsey looking gent lounging at the bar laughed loudly—a horsey laugh, and it grated on Mornington's ear. He turned sharply "No reply."

The waiter bowed and withdrew.

Sobered beyond his own belief, the doctor passed through the theatre into his brougham.

"Home," he said to his enquiring footman and fell back among the cushions, crushing the cablegram in his hand.

* * * * *

A pleasant fire burned in his library hearth, warming his chilled fingers as he flung himself down before it.

It was a comfortable room, bespeaking a tone of monied refinement, of staid irreproachable bachelorism, the shelves crowded with innumerable volumes, the *secretaire* littered with papers.

With unconscionable pride, he cast his eye around, at the same moment passing his hand over his bald head.

A large gilded mirror reflected the figure of a fat, flabby man in conventional dress suit,—and he smiled as he gazed on the wear and tear of two score years and seven. Yes, the ravages of time were great and, as he walked over to his writing table, it struck him that perhaps—only *perhaps*—had he carved out his Past on other lines, had he reached this plenty by other and worthier means,—he might to-day have borne his years better, and the mirror might, perhaps, have told another tale.

His glance fell upon an unfinished manuscript, and he listlessly turned over the already written pages.

At hand lay a thick black volume edged with gilt, and titled in plain gilded lettering.

"*Letters from Hell.*"

Himself a cynical disbeliever in fields of Psychological Research, Dr. Mornington's aim in life was to prevent, by the overpowering evidence of scientific experiments and the brilliance of his pen, a cohesion between scientist and theorist.

For him, no soul existed,—the curtain veiling future time was merely a tombstone o'er the grave of the past, he stood upon a precipice at the brink of a bottomless abyss.

He was an able writer and his Great Work, wherein he proved—or sought to prove—that the mere possibility of the soul of man leaving the deceased frame was an absurdity beyond comparison, lay as yet unfinished.

It needed but the touch of its master's hand to bring it into existence, that hand which had already struck so deeply into the spiritualistic ranks. What madness! Andrew Mornington was not a soul, he was an earthly frame whilst all his hopes, his work and, as he fondly sneered, his evil deeds must perforce end where all the globe expired:—

"ASHES TO ASHES—DUST TO DUST!"

And before him on his table lay his Present and his Past—his living and his lived—His Great Work and the crumpled cablegram.

At his side lay the black book with the gilt binding.

His eyes caught the title, and he shuddered.

* * * * * *

A flash of lightning—the deafening roar of thunder.

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Dr. Mornington parted the curtains of his library window and looked out.

A second flash blinded him, the thunder drowned his muttered curse:

An unseen Power—he knew not what or whence forced him to turn on his heel.

Then he saw that he was *not alone.*

A sickening sense of fear crept over him, for he had locked the door on the inside, it was his usual custom, in order to prevent intrusion—and yet—yet?

The intruder was standing on the hearth-rug, with his back to the fire, and his eyes looking straight into the doctor's.

"Andrew!"

The doctor caught at the window curtain to save himself from falling—then, recovering a trifle, strode towards the stranger.

"This is no inn!" he growled hoarsely, "who the devil are you, sir —to address me as "Andrew?'"

The stranger smiled but remained silent, Mornington shook with rage and fright.

"I say, sir,—who are you? Do you not hear me?—D—n you!"

A cold hand was laid across his lips, he shivered from head to foot and collapsed limply on to a settee dimly realizing that the intruder was speaking.

"It is a pity that you should be so ill-tempered, Andrew. Sooner or later you will have to recognize me, so the quicker the better. Look again!"

Dr. Mornington sat bolt upright.

"You're—hang it, *you're miles away!*"

The stranger was walking up and down,—with bent head and smiling lips.

Mornington pressed his trembling fingers to his brow and groaned:

"It cannot be,—unless the cablegram lied,—no, it is impossible. The same face,—the same voice, but from so far and in so short a time!"

Mornington shuddered, he seemed to know intuitively that the stranger's eye was on him, that the secrets of his mind were revealed. He stood up and rattled a bunch of keys in his pocket and the noise they made relieved the deadness of the silent room.

"Drop this masquerade, sir. If you are my brother,—say so, and," he added pompously, "I can afford to forgive."

"*You* forgive!" and the stranger's face lighted up with a smile of infantile sweetness. "You! No. I am not your brother. The day has passed when I might have claimed that distinction. It has passed and can never come again. I am that which is not. I am what you in your Great Work would prove to be a conception, a vision of a theorist's brain—an impossibility—a *spirit!*"

"Never!" Mornington gasped, stepping forward.

"Sit down!" Mornington never moved.

"Sit down!"—and he obeyed, trembling in every limb.

"But I can prove," the doctor moaned piteously, "I can prove this a lie. Is all my life's work thrown away? Are all my studies for nought? I have no soul, nor you. The human frame must perish!"

"You are right. For you there is no future. To-night is your last on earth. You are going to die and I am here to watch your departure."

Mornington was white as a corpse. His throat was parched and choaking.

"I must be mad," he gasped, "or dreaming. Heavens! I have years to live,—I am a young man, with all my life to come, what do you mean? You must be joking."

The stranger smiled again.

"I mean that you must die."

"Do you mean *murder*?" Mornington whispered fiercely. "You are a lunatic, mad—He ——— ———"

His cry for help ended in a hoarse rattle and, horrified, he tore open his collar—gasping for breath.

Meanwhile the stranger was standing silently before the window with folded arms.

Mornington eyed him with haggard mien, wild with superstitious fear, his brain in a whirl.

What did he mean? How like an avenging Satan he looked. What power flamed from his eyes! No, No,—he was not human, he could not be.

Instinctively he felt how rotten had been the foundations of his theories. Great scientist as he was,—his axioms were proven by the very presence of this awful being to be as worthless as his life had become.

The stranger moved with a stately gliding step into the light of the fire. "Andrew," he said in a persuasive tone that cut through the unfortunate doctor like a knife; "you will come and sit here."

Like one in a dream, Mornington followed his direction and slid trembling into a chair before his *secretaire.*

"Now listen!"

The light of a shaded lamp falling fully on his victim's face showed how the last hour had wrought a change in the man; had the stranger been more human he might perforce have pitied him.

Instead, however, his voice grew more stern, his carriage more commanding. "You, my brother, are to die. Nothing on earth can alter it. You are to die. Your life has come and gone, you know best to what use you have put it. That which is done can yet be undone, and if you have wronged kith and kin, prepare to answer for it e're dawn."

Mornington stared with stony eyes. Despite the strongest efforts of his will, his tongue

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refused to do its work. He bowed his head in his hands. "Think back, oh my righteous brother" the stranger continued. "Draw back the curtain of the Past,—and tell me, have you nothing, no evil to retrieve, no miserable earth-worm to recompense?

The doctor groaned.

"Come, be a man, if man you are,—you have not long to make a retribution since you must die ere sunrise."

"Die?"—Mornington wrung his hands madly. "Die!—I am not ready. Great heavens, I am on the verge of fame. I am nearer than ever to the completion of my Great Work."

"Time is fleeting. Have you no wrong to undo?"

"Yes, yes, give me but time," he pleaded tearfully. "I forged I know and so do you, the cheque that drove you from your home, I laid the blame on you. I lied that I might live in luxury--that you might starve. I dwelt in plenty whilst you—oh Ron.—forgive!"

Mornington was on his knees, weeping craven tears.

"'Tis too late," the stranger sneered. "If I would forgive,—I dare not do so now,--you must die."

"How can I? I am afraid. I will do anything, take all I have, everything—but give me Life!" and with shaking hand, the doctor pulled out his drawer running his fingers o'er the money bags within:

"I love them,—but I dare not die!"

"Fool!"—the stranger drew himself up proudly, "To think that Fate can be perverted." "Be glad that you are granted an opportunity to undo the past."

"How can it be done?"

"Take up a pen and write," the doctor's hand clutched nervously at a pile of papers. "Hasten, for dawn is nigh!"

"What am I to write?"

The stranger proceeded to dictate:

"I, Andrew Mornington, feeling my end at hand do hereby bequeath the whole of my earthly wealth and personal belongings to Alice, wife of my brother, Ronald Mornington, deceased, and to her heirs. By this means, I may compensate the—

Mornington staggered to his feet.

"Is all the world to know my shame?" he pleaded.

The stranger was inexorable.

"Write!"

The doctor scribled feverishly—"compensate them for years of poverty to which I brought them."

"Now sign."

Mornington fell back in his chair.

"Never!—give me time!"

The stranger laughed, an unearthly chuckle.

"Sign," he whispered, "or leave this world unshriven."

And Mornington signed his name.

"Now," said his brother "we will shake hands."

Mornington shivered as the cold fingers closed over his

It struck him with a sudden chill, a grip of Death. His limbs grew paralyzed, inch by inch moment by moment.

Then he realized that he was dying and he sank back in his armchair with a moan.

Never had he known the meaning of pain till now. A fearful darkness filled his eyes, a vacancy his brain.

"Andrew!"

He could not speak, he was half-dead already, and yet his mind lived—oh the agony of it!

"Andrew! The dawn is here,—I cannot linger, let us leave together—to where there is no exile, to that second world where retribution is unknown."

* * * * *

Dr. Mornington's library was forcibly opened when his continued silence became noticeable.

He sat at his table, his head laid on his last will and testament, his stiffened fingers clutching his watch.

The watch had stopped at half-past three!

* * * * *

A cablegram for the deceased doctor was opened and found to contain:

"*Ronald Mornington died of wounds, 3-30 a.m. this morning.*"

HOMO.

———:o:———

Marriage of a Commissioned Officer in France.

—o—

WHEN a French commissioned officer decides to marry he informs his colonel of his intention. The colonel passes the request on to the War Office, and at length it is put before the Minister.

So far so good. The first thing then done is to find out if the young lady concerned fulfils the requirements of the law, which provides that she must have an irreproachable moral character and a dowry worth a yearly revenue of £400.

The unfortunate young man's application begins to descend the ladder of officialism until it reaches the officer commanding the gendarmery in the district where the officer's *fiancee* resides. It is then passed to a gendarme, who is commissioned to inquire into the young lady's character. He proceeds as cautiously as a detective. Should he happen to know the father of the demoiselle indicated, he goes and sees him; if not he culls his information from the neighbours. He will even follow her when she goes to the theatre or entertainments.

Having finished his investigations, he draws up a report on strictly police-court lines. Off goes the document on its way upwards through the bureaux and red tape until it gets to the War Minister. Should the conditions be fulfilled, the officer is at last permitted to marry.

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Somaliland Field Force.

—o—

CAPTAIN McNEILL IN ACTION.

(FROM THE PIONEER).

Somala, 4th June.

THE expeditionary force against the Mad Mullah started from Burao on the 22nd May last. Marching S. E., and passing in succession Bir, Oudaweina, Bohotla, Einabo, Eyl Dab, it arrived here on the 31st May, having marched (deducting time spent at Bir waiting for important information) on an average 24 miles a day. This can be put down as a good all-round performance, when it is taken into consideration that throughout we were in the enemy's country, and that our column included some 600 camels carrying water, supplies, &c. At Somala Colonel Swayne determined to leave this heavy tail, and to push forward as rapidly as possible, hoping to bring the Mullah to battle, at Yahell, two days' march further on. Captain McNeill, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Lieutenant Murray, East Surrey Regiment, Lieutenant Lamprey, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and Lieutenant Younghusband, Bedfordshire Regiment, were assigned the duty of defending Somala with some 250 rifles and 150 spearmen and one Maxim against the very probable attack of some of the Dholbahanta tribesmen. Four thousand camels that had been looted from the enemy two days before had also to be protected, and more than one good judge of the Somalis confidently anticipated that the Mullah, hearing of the two columns, would in all probability give the slip to the stronger one, and by a quick outflanking march take the weaker column by surprise, attack their *zariba* by a spear rush, and so possess himself of all the rifles, ammunition, stores, &c., together with the camels, 1,600 odd, including our own transport ones. This naturally appeared to be the one move above all others that might bring him good results, as if successful he would certainly be able to give the first column a great amount of trouble with all the additional arms and ammunition he would have captured from us.

Captain McNeill determined to lose no opportunity of putting the place in a proper state of defence. A strong *zariba* was formed for the men, stores, &c., and another, on lower ground, and commanded on all sides by the first, was constructed for the camels, &c. The Maxim was placed on a cairn of stones at the top end of the main *zariba* on rising ground and could from its position sweep all sides of both *zaribas*. The hedges were built on the low principle so as to enable the men to fire over, instead of through them but made up for this in being about 5 yards thick. Outside all, we had three lines of barbed wire entanglements, reaching from 20 yards out to 150 yards of the hedges.

The first column left us at about 4 P.M. on the 1st instant, and we had not long to wait before seeing signs of the enemy on the hills to the south. On the 2nd instant at about 3 P. M. our scouts came in with the intelligence that large bodies of the enemy's horsemen were advancing under cover of the hills to the south at about 2,000 yards distant. Soon we could see them coming over the crest, advancing by troops apparently in perfect order and in regular formation. Following these we could make out crowds of footmen surging over the hills, these, however, not in the same formation as the horsemen, but all crowded together. It soon became apparent that it was their intention to capture our camels, which had been out grazing until the first alarm had been given, and which were now being driven in with all possible speed. Arriving at about 1,000 yards most of the horsemen dismounted, only some 100 (evidently leaders) remaining in the saddle, and the whole force advanced in long sweeping lines, maintaining a rough interval between the men and keeping up at the same time a brisk fire, from (judging by the different reports) a variety of guns from the ·308 to the old muzzle-loading smooth-bore, plenty of bullets whistling over the *zaribas*. After a great amount of trouble we had now managed to get all the camels safely inside, and waiting till the first line reached about 600 yards we opened independent fire. The result was never in doubt, for although they rushed forward with the utmost pluck and determination up to within 300 yards of the *zariba*, their loss was too heavy, and with men falling all around they broke and fell back to the hills. It was not over yet, and we could hear the various leaders collecting their men together and haranguing them preparatory to another attempt. At about 6 o'clock they again formed up and running forward in a perfectly cool and collected manner they once more, through sheer pluck, struggled up to within 300 yards before falling back under our heavy fire. It was now pretty dark, the moon being quite obscured, except for short intervals, by thick clouds and rather a trying time followed, as up till about 11 o'clock parties of the enemy were hanging about, and on two occasions by sudden rushes managed to get right up to the lower end of the cattle *zariba*. By information, and by what we saw ourselves, we estimated the Mullah's force at 500 horsemen and 2,000 footmen. In the morning we could see large numbers of dead lying all round the *zaribas*, but no time was given us for a closer search, as at about 9 A.M. we saw that we were in for it again. Thousands of footmen were massing on the hills, and soon the advance commenced in one long line, about four deep, extending from our extreme left to far beyond our right. It became apparent that a frontal and right flank attack was to be the order, and this proved correct, for arriving at about 700 yards the whole left of the line swung round and we found our front and right hotly engaged. Evidently inspired by the Mullah's presence, for that he in person directed the operations there is no doubt, and probably smarting under his taunts at their failures on the previous day, they came along in one great thick line, and from 600 yards rushed forward with much dash and gallantry up to within 150 yards of the main *zariba* on the front, while on the right some 50 spearmen gained the very walls of the enclosure, where a hand-to-hand fight took place until reinforcements arriving at an opportune moment, cleared the *zaribas* of all danger.

This was apprently the Mullah's great and final effort, as after he had retired behind the hills in confusion, we soon learnt from our scouts that he had retreated with all his force due south. After the fight we counted 190 dead Dholbahantas on the field, and from some prisoners we learn that their total loss in killed and wounded amounted to 600.

From reliable information the Mullah's force on this day was 5,000 to 6,000, but our total loss was ten killed and nine wounded.

All praise is due to do this little force at Somala, only partially broken to discipline, for the plucky manner in which they kept some twelve times their number at a safe distance during three determined attacks, and more especially to the four British officers who throughout the whole time kept these men in hand, and by using them to the best advantage, inflicted a lesson on the Mullah and his following severe enough to be felt throughout the whole country for a considerable time to come. It is extremely doubtful whether he will again venture on fighting, and even should he be so inclined, we fancy that he will fail to find sufficient followers, after the lesson they have received, who are willing to again throw in their lot with a leader who has so badly misled them.

The latest news from the first column is to the effect that the Mounted Infantry have still further scattered the Dholbahantas, who are now only endeavouring to clear out as fast as possible. Colonel Swayne hopes to effect a junction with the Abyssinians at Bohotla, and then working together to hem in and ultimately capture the Mullah.

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The Fellow in the Street.

—o—

'List ?—What join the Army ?
Are you really quite so balmy ?
You would like to be a soldier ?
Bless your soul, my lad, you're bolder
  Than the bravest man I've had the luck to meet.
Take an old man's tip, don't do it.
Or you'll just as quickly rue it.
For you'll find t'is but a *name*
You're a *play-thing* just the same
  Of the child like faddy "Fellow in the Street."

He will pamper you and feed you
If he happens just to need you,
You can win eternal glory
On manœuvres (he's a Tory)
  And he'll march you while you stand upon a leg.
When he's tired of testing clothing
That you can but view with loathing
And the "Soldiers' Cooking" faction
Has nigh put you out of action
  If you do not care to starve, well—*you can beg* !

You'll be asked to pass opinions
On experiments by millions,
Rifles, lances, straps and swords
Which will pass a dozen boards,
  And innumerable tests by day and night.
He will rig you in Khakee
That your foes could never see.
Quite a good idea, perhaps,
If it wasn't for your straps,
  Which the regulations say *must* be kept white.

He's a military genius far from dense
And his own ideas of tactics are immense.
He imagines he was born a brigadier,
Since he was a don't-cher-know-a-volunteer.
  If he wasn't—well, don't blame him, blame his feet.
He's a splendid hand at slighting.
When his troops are all out fighting
Would he like to go instead ?
Could he leave his feather-bed ?
  What !—He's only fit for talking, is the Fellow in the Street !

An old fellow, who had taken the pledge, but whose practice, it was shrewdly suspected, did not keep pace with his profession, was twitted one day by an acquaintance, who expressed some indignation at a laxity which would allow of the infraction of a solemn pledge. "Oh !" said the old self-apologist with a moist sigh, "I jist whiles pits a wee drappie i' the bottom o' the tum'ler, jist tae warm the gless like ; bit, ye ken, I never drinks doon tae the whusky."

What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.

THAT it wis'na in liquid, it wis in a bowl.

That a scout without self-reliance is like a man eating breid and butter without the breid.

That he noticed that some o' them in moving did'na move at a.'

That the gaird on the silver is not now required.

That it wis parade wet or rain.

That the backbone is a tora conspicuous on parade noo-a-days.

That the D. L. C. did'nt fire a box o' magazines during his annual course.

That the S. A. ribbon is for Militia, Volunteers (not Standing Camp) and Imperial Yeomanry only.

That he's a Volunteer.

That he's on the eight dib racket.

That they're gettin' peyed oot shortly.

That the Treasury his rin oot o' sma' change.

That the Musketry is getting on gey weel.

That the Grenadiers held their ain for a wee.

That the Blin' troop knocked them oot.

That the "dangerous space" is still atween the dress and the "no parade" call.

That a man on the parade ground, is safer than sixty men in a bungalow, even though it is raining.

—:o:—

Regimental Cricket Tournament.

—o—

AS was surmised, "B" and "C" Companies forged their way through to the final ; but contrary to expectations, the favourites met with a crash at the last hurdle. The match between "A" and "C," which was deferred through the absence of several prominent players at Naini Tal, resulted in a hollow win for "B" Company by 91 runs. "A" Company's small score may be attributed to the exceptionally fine fielding of their opponents, and to the splendid bowling of Mahoney and Beavis, the latter performing the hat-trick. "B" Company easily accounted for "G" by a victory of 8 wickets, and 3 runs in the second round, while "C" literally smashed up "E" by the wide margin of 146 runs, decided on the first innings. In the final, "C" Company again gave a beautiful exhibition of fielding, while Mahoney enhanced his reputation by making a repetition of his doughty partner's performance in the match against "A" Company. The officers of the two teams kindly provided the players with an excellent tiffin during the recess ; which together with a splendid day (though a trifle warm) went to make a most successful conclusion of the Tournament of 1901.

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FIRST ROUND.

"A" COMPANY *v.* "C" COMPANY—*3rd June* 1901.

Beavis performs the bat-trick.

"A" Company.

Names.	*How out.*	*Scores.*
Pte. Sheridan	bowled Beavis	4
„ Allen, W.	„ Mahoney	0
„ Hanson	„ Mahoney	0
„ Allan, J.	stumped Lieut. Forbes	11
„ Hunter	bowled Mahoney	0
„ Robinson	not out	0
„ Button	bowled Beavis	0
„ Rafferty	„ Beavis	0
„ Boyne	„ Beavis	0
„ Brown	„ Mahoney	0
Lieut. Anson	caught Geddes, bowled Mahoney	2
	Total	17

"C" Company.

Sergt. Mahoney	caught and bowled Hanson	0
Pte. Dott	bowled Allen, W.	0
Sergt. Beavis	„ Hanson	0
Pte. Cairns	run out Rafferty	19
„ Gibson	„ Hanson	19
Lieut. Forbes	L. B. W. Lieut. Anson,	4
„ Akers-Douglas,	caught and bowled Allan, W.	5
Pte. French	bowled Hanson,	84
Bdsmn. Yeo	not out	9
Col.-Sergt. Gilmour	bowled Lt. Anson,	0
Pte. Geddes	„ Anson,	8
	Byes	7
	Leg byes,	2
	Wide balls	1
	Total	108

"C" Company win by 91 runs.

SECOND ROUND.

"C" COMPANY *v.* "E" COMPANY,—*8th June* 1901.

Splendid batting by Lieut Akers-Douglas.

"E" Company.

Names.	*How out.*	*Scores.*
Pte. Gowans	caught and bowled Mahoney	16
„ Lawrence	run out Mahoney	0
Bdsmn. Ogden	caught Kelly bowled Mahoney	0
Lieut. Latham	stumped, Beavis	0
Pte. Duncan	bowled Mahoney	6
„ McDonald,	bowled Beavis	0
„ Millar	stumped Lieut. Forbes	1
Bdsmn. Lewington,	caught and bowled Mahoney	8
Pte. Diplock	caught Yeo bowled Mahoney	0
„ Douglas	bowled Lieut. Akers-Douglas	1
„ Deans	not out	0
	Byes	11
	Leg byes	1
	Total	44

"C" Company.

Lieut. Akers-Douglas,	run out Duncan	79
Corpl. Kelly	caught and bowled Douglas	0
Sergt. Mahoney	bowled Douglas	13
Pte Gibson,	caught Lawrence, bowled Douglas	4
„ Cairns	bowled Duncan	4
Lieut. Forbes	caught Ogden, bowled Duncan	6
Sergt. Beavis	caught Deans, bowled Deans	39
Pte. French	caught and bowled Douglas	16
„ Geddes	stumped Duncan	0
Bdsmn. Yeo	not out	4
Pte. Dott	bowled Duncan	7
	Byes	14
	Leg byes	1
	Wide Balls	3
	Total	190

"C" Company win by 146 runs.

"B" COMPANY *v.* "G" COMPANY—*11th June* 1901.

"G" Company.

First Innings.

Names.	*How out.*	*Scores.*
Band-Sergt. Hall	bowled Russell	1
Pte. Benson	„ Stevenson	9
„ Pullar	„ Stevenson	0
Lce.-Corpl. Ellis	„ Russell	1
Pte. Mackay	„ Stevenson	6
„ Skene	„ Lieut. Sandeman,	28
Lieut. Hyslop	„ Stevenson	0
Pte. Baker	„ Stevenson	6
„ Maslin	„ Stevenson	1
Drum.-Major Peggie,	caught Russell, bowled Stevenson	0
Pte. Forbes	not out	9
	Byes	11
	Leg byes	1
	Total	73

"B" Company.

First Innings.

Lieut. Herbert	caught Maslin bowled Benson	21
Corpl. Buchanan,	„ Forbes „ Pullar	6
Pte. Stevenson,	bowled Maslin	37
Lieut. Sandeman,	caught Forbes, bowled Pullar	19
„ Kennedy	bowled Pullar	9
Pte. Atherton	„ Ellis	9
„ Russell	run out Ellis	6
„ Mossman	bowled Pullar	0
Bdsmn. Johnson	„ Pullar	0
Pte. Henry	„ Ellis	6
„ Logan	not out	8
	Byes	6
	Wide Balls	2
	Total	129

"G" Company.

Second Innings.

Band-Sergt. Hall	bowled Stevenson	5
Pte. Benson	„ Russell	2
„ Skene,	caught Henry bowled Stevenson	22
„ Pullar	bowled Stevenson	0
Lce.-Corpl. Ellis	„ Russell	5
Pte. Forbes,	„ Russell	0
„ Baker	„ Russell	0
„ McKay	„ Russell	20
„ Fyffe,	caught and bowled Stevenson	7
„ McAuley	stumped Russell	6
Drum.-Major Peggie,	not out	5
	Byes	4
	Total	76

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"B" COMPANY.

Second Innings.

Names.	*How out.*	*Scores.*
Lieut. Herbert ...	retired	... 16
,, Sandeman...	bowled Hall	... 6
Corpl. Buchanan ...	not out	... 0
	Byes ...	1
	Total (for 8 wickets)	... 23

FINAL.

"B" COMPANY v. "C" COMPANY,—*29th June* 1901.

Mahoney performs the hat-trick.

Lieut. Akers-Douglas again tops the score.

"C" COMPANY.

First Innings.

Names.	*How out.*	*Scores.*
Pte. Cairns ...	bowled Stevenson ..	4
Lieut. Akers-Douglas...	not out	... 54
Pte. Geddes ...	bowled Stevenson ...	9
Lieut. Forbes ...	,, Stevenson ...	4
Sergt. Mahoney ...	,, Stevenson ...	8
Corpl. Kelly,	caught Buchanan, bowled Stevenson,	4
Pte. French ...	stumped Henry	6
,, Gibson ...	bowled Stevenson ...	0
Sergt. Beavis ...	,, Lieut. Sandeman	13
Bdsmn. Yeo ...	stumped Henry	4
Pte. Dott, caught Henry, bowled Lieut. Sandeman		0
	Leg byes ...	1
	No Balls ...	1
	Total ...	108

"B" COMPANY.

First Innings.

Lieut. Herbert, caught Lieut. Forbes, bowled Beavis,				2
Pte. Stevenson, caught Mahoney, bowled Beavis ...				14
Lieut. Sandeman ... not out				... 18
Pte. Henry ... bowled Mahoney ...				... 0
Lieut. Kennedy, caught Beavis, bowled Mahoney ...				0
Pte. Atherton	,, Cairns	,, Mahoney ...		0
,, Russell	,, Geddes	,, Mahoney ...		0
,, Mossman	,, Cairns	,, Mahoney ...		5
Corpl. Buchanan ... bowled Beavis ...				... 0
Bdsmn. Johnson, caught Kelly, stumped Douglas ...				0
Pte. Logan ... stumped Lieut. Forbes ...				2
		Byes ...		2
		Leg byes ...		1
		Total ...		44

"B" COMPANY.

Second Innings.

Lieut. Herbert, caught Mahoney, bowled Lieut. Douglas				11
Pte. Stevenson ... stumped Lieut. Forbes ...				7
Lieut. Sandeman ... bowled Beavis				9
Pte. Henry ... ,, Beavis				1
Lieut. Kennedy, caught Gibson, bowled Lieut. Douglas				14
Pte. Atherton	,, Yeo.	,, Beavis ...		8
,, Russell	,, Lieut. Douglas	,, Beavis ...		3
,, Mossman	,, Beavis	,, Lieut. Douglas...		10
Corpl. Buchanan ... bowled Lieut. Douglas ...				0
Bdsmn. Johnson ... not out				0
Pte. Logan ... stumped Lieut. Forbes ...				5
		Byes ...		7
		Leg-byes ...		3
		Total ...		78

"C" COMPANY.

Second Innings.

Names.	*How out.*	*Scores.*
Pte. Gibson ...	bowled Russell ...	... 2
,, Geddes ...	,, Stevenson ...	... 2
,, Cairns ...	not out	... 4
,, French ...	,, ...	... 6
	Byes ...	4
	Total (for 8 wickets)	... 18

Winners of Colonel Trotter's Cricket Clock, from 1894 to 1900 inclusive:—

Year.	*Company.*
1894	"F"
1895	"B"
1896	"B"
1898	"G"
1899	"B"
1900	"C"

N. B.—The present holders qualified as finalists in the years of 1898 *v.* "G" and 1899 *v.* "B".

E. M.

:o:

Quoits.

A couple of friendly matches took place between representatives of "B" and "C" Companies during the month, ending in a win on both occasions for "B" Company. Below are the scores:—

First Match.

"B" COMPANY.		"C" COMPANY.	
Pte. Kerr	21	Pte. French	19
,, Donnelly		,, Adams	
,, Atherton	20	,, Crosby	21
,, Stevenson		,, Riddle	
,, J. McIntyre	18	,, Elder	21
,, J. Blythe		,, Holden	
,, Robertson	21	,, Cairns	6
,, D. Anderson		,, Foreman	
Total ...	80	Total ...	67

Second Match.

Pte. Atherton	25	Pte. Riddle	19
,, Kerr		,, Holden	
,, Stevenson	25	,, Sneddon	14
,, Blythe		,, Elder	
,, D. Anderson	21	Sergt. Mahoney	25
,, Robertson		Pte. Adams	
,, Hyslop	23	,, French	25
,, Bartholomew		,, Gunn	
Total ...	94	Total ...	83

J. A.

Tommy Atkins' knowledge of history is really remarkable. I was once very much puzzled at hearing a man universally called "William the Conqueror" by his acquaintances. I could see no earthly reason for this, as his real name was Smith, and in no way did he bear any resemblance to the Norman hero. At last I determined to solve the mystery, and I asked one of his friends why Smith was called "William the Conqueror.'

"Oh, didn't you know that?" replied he, "Why, it's because his Regimental number's 1066."

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A Wice Dug, Sirs!

—o—

IT'S no' because he hauds his heid
As heigh as dugs o' finer breed;
Nor yet because he'd tak' a rise
Oot ony mongrel twice his size;
It's no' because he's chewed the lug
Aff mony a pampered blue-bred dug;
Though these are pints I'm prood tae see
There's mair than that hauds "Jock" tae me.
He shairs my joys, he shairs my woes,
He welcomes frien's, he growls at foes;
He shairs my euro-khaki stew,
Ay, e'en pretends he likes it to,
Though weel I'm kennin' a' the while
He'd lief as no' hae castor ile;
Sae hard up often, seldom bien,
We shair alike the fat an' lean.
But see us when it gets aboot
At last, that "J——'s" peyin' oot
"Jock" wags his tail, I snap my fingers
At euro-khaki stews an' slingers
The fatefu' 'oor ca's roon at last;
Avaunt thou hungry beerless past!
Seated soon ower "Wullie's" table
Memory o' thee's an idle fable.
The pots pass roon in bricht succession
Like sojers in a gay procession;
The witty sal', the soondin' chorus,
Wi' a' their 'companiments before us;
L——r declares it's no' *his* faut
That "Wullie" brewed the peck o' maut;
Syne Geordie gied puir Fred a poke
Wi' 's famous "Honours easy" joke,
Here "Pike" essayed at crossin' sticks
Wi' don't forget the 'ane by tricks';
But Sanny stopped the wordy tussle
Suggestin' that we'd "weet oor whustle:"
Syne follows mony a thrust an' parry
That 'd grace the "London Charivari."
"Jock" stretched oot in his usual place
Gies oot his double forte bass.
As in a chorus never shrinkin'
Tae dae besides his shair o' drinkin'.
But every joy maun hae its measure
As did oor short-leeved 'oor o' pleasure;
Syne somehoo up the hill we managed;
Hoo mony shin bones that were damaged,
An' ankles twisted, I winna name
Let it suffice, we stanchered hame.
Showin' "Jock" my pockets in the morniu';
Says I "noo let this be a warnin'"
(Noo wi' your leave sirs let me mention,
I haena got the least intention
Tae drive a trade in allegory,
Or "cauld kail het" an Æsop story;
But *shair as aften someane's week*
Has ten dreech days, yon dug can speak,)
Wi' saut tears snoovin' doon his snoot
Says "Jock" whe—when's *he* "peyin' oot'."

L. F.

1901-02 Musketry Course.

—o—

The following are the *twelve best Shots* exercised with their Companies:—

"D" Company.

		Scores.
1.	No. 4344, Bandsman J. Burns	199
2.	„ 5198, Private J. Marshall	194
3.	„ 5597, „ A. Kerr	190
4.	„ 6142, „ W. Rastall	182
5.	„ 5681, „ J. Monteith	180
6.	„ 7993, „ G. Rodwell	178
7.	„ 5116, „ A. McDonald	174
8.	„ 5971, „ W. Brookes	174
9.	Captain K. F. C. Marshall	174
10.	„ 3865, Sergeant T. Campbell	173
11.	„ 5193, Lance-Corporal W. Cole	170
12.	„ 4543, Piper D. Finlayson	169

"C" Company.

		Scores.
1.	No. 3006, Sergeant J. Ewan	191
2.	„ 3531, „ F. Marks	188
3.	„ 5921, Color-Sergeant R. Gilmour	186
4.	„ 4906, Private T. Craig	184
5.	„ 4092, „ J. White	179
6.	„ 5560, „ J. Laird	178
7.	„ 3881, „ F. Beavis	178
8.	„ 4417, „ J. Riddell	178
9.	„ 5548, Lance-Corporal J. MacDonald ...	178
10.	„ 5516, „ „ H. Anderson	175
11.	„ 4773, Corporal A. Wilson	171
12.	„ 5392, Private J. Duncanson ...	171

"G" Company.

		Scores.
1.	No. 5589, Lance-Corporal J. MacLaren ...	202
2.	„ 4567, „ Sergeant D. Inglis	197
3.	„ 4292, Private R. Stirratt	197
4.	„ 4050, Bandsman E. Lillywhite ...	182
5.	„ 6074, Private W. Anderson... ...	181
6.	„ 5994, „ A. Rice	180
7.	„ 4596, „ C. Ryans	176
8.	„ 4207, „ R. Nicholson... ...	174
9.	„ 3236, Sergeant R. Miller	171
10.	„ 3306, „ A. Lockie	171
11.	„ 5171, Drummer J. Coutts	171
12.	„ 2299, Sergeant-Piper A. Ferguson	170

——: o :——

Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

BIRTH.

Bracey—At Ranikhet, on the 6th July 1901, the wife of Lance-Corporal F. J. Bracey, of a daughter, Florence Margaret.

MARRIAGE.

Stubbs—Maun.—At St. Peter's Church, Ranikhet, on the 10th July 1901, the Rev. C. Darling, Officiating, Sergeant Charles Albert Stubbs, 93rd Highlanders, to Jean Isabella, daughter of Robert Maun, late Band Sergeant, 91st Highlanders.

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Ninety-third Calendar for September 1901.

—o—

1	S.	Est. reduced to 30 officers, 41 sergeants, 23 drummers and pipers, 40 corporals and 560 privates, 1878.
2	M.	
3	Tu.	
4	W.	
5	Th.	
6	F.	Victoria Cross presented to Lieut.-Colonel Hans Garrett Moore at Gibraltar, 1879.
7	S.	
8	S.	Second grand assault on Sebastopol, 1856. Redan entered by Lieutenants Macbean and Fenwick and 10 volunteers, and found deserted.
9	M.	Tochi Campaign. Second Khaza Column under General Penn-Symons left Sheranni, 1897. Third cholera outbreak in 1862.
10	Tu.	
11	W.	
12	Th.	
13	F.	
14	S.	Landed in Crimea, 1854.
15	S.	
16	M.	Emb. Plymouth on board H.M.S. "*Alceste*," "*Bedford*" and "*Bell Poule*" for America (New Orleans), 1814. Strength 33 officers, 42 sergeants, 22 trumpeters (?), 48 corporals and 817 privates.
17	Tu.	Enfield Rifles (53 pattern) issued to regiment in Crimea, 1854.
18	W.	
19	Th.	March to Sebastopol commenced, 1854.
20	F.	Battle of the Alma, 1854; 1 officer, 7 men killed, 44 wounded. "*Mauritius*" arrived Calcutta, 1857.
21	S.	Emb. Guernsey for Scotland (Kirkcaldy), 1802.
22	S.	
23	M.	Emb. Fort George for Guernsey, 1800.
24	Tu.	
25	W.	
26	Th.	"*Belleisle*" arrived Calcutta, 1857; regiment met and welcomed by Sir Colin Campbell.
27	F.	
28	S.	
29	S.	
30	M.	

Lost, Stolen or Strayed.

—o—

Where are the Boys of the Bold Brigade,
The lads of the Badge and Stick;
When burglars are making their nightly raid,
And coming it rather thick?

Perhaps they imagine that Life's a dream,
And thieves are best left alone;
But oh! what the rage and the horror would be
If the next blankets lost were their own!

DETECTIVE.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACTS FROM "LONDON GAZETTE."

Dated War Office, 2nd July 1901.

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.—Major T. A. Scott retires on retired pay; Captain A. F. MacKenzie to be Major, *vice* T. Scott.

Dated 25th June—2nd-Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean to be Lieutenant, *vice* A. L. C. Clarke appointed Adjutant.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Corporals:—No. 5321, Lance-Corporal P. Allan, "G" Company, dated 22nd June 1901; No. 6202, Lance-Corporal J. MacInnes, "G" Company, dated 25th June 1901.

PAY OF RANK.

To be paid Lance-Corporals:—No. 5678, Lance-Corporal T. Scott, "D" Company, dated 22nd June, 1901; No. 3698, Lance-Corporal F. Trant, "A" Company, dated 25th June 1901; No. 5865, Lance-Corporal F. Johnson, "F" Company, dated 1st July 1901.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be 1st Class Sergeant Instructor to the Cawnpore Volunteer Rifle Corps—Authority No. 175, *dated Naini Tal, 10th July* 1901:—No. 1360, Sergeant-Instructor A. Jeffrey, Calcutta Volunteer Rifle Corps.

To be Drill Instructor:—No. 3037, Sergeant G. Arnott, "B" Company.

To be in charge of the Grocery Bar and Supper Room.—No. 3344, Lance-Sergeant A. E. Lawrie, "F" Company.

To be Assistant Instructor in Signalling:—No. 5256, Corporal T. Atkinson, "H" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5676, Private D. Wilson, "G" Company, and No. 6078, Private T. Peacock, "H" Company, dated 6th July 1901; No. 5589, Private J. MacLaren, "G" Company, dated 16th July 1901; No. 5659, Private A. J. Darwood, "C" Company, and No. 5516, Private G. Anderson, "C" Company, dated 27th July 1901.

To be Acting Bandsman.—No. 5577, Private J. Deloughrey, "D" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 5d. per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 525, Pte. A. Mitchell.

At 2d. per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 5485, Private J. Holden.

"D" Company.

No. 4344, Bandsman J. Burns.

"F" Company.

No. 5265, Private A. Hamilton.

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At 1d per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 5645, Pte. J. McEwan. | No. 3851, Pte. R. Smith.

"B" Company.

No. 4796, Private W. McDonald.

"C" Company.

No. 4972, Private J. Keir.

"E" Company.

No. 5916, Pte. J. Bisland. | No. 5997, Pte. J. McGuire.

"H" Company.

No. 5990, Private J. Bridges.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted an Assistant Instructor's Certificate of Signalling, dated 6th July 1901.—No. 5256, Corporal T. Atkinson, "H" Company.

Granted an Acting Schoolmaster's Certificate, dated 29th March 1901.—No. 5048, Lance-Corporal T. Hamill, "A" Company.

Granted Mounted Infantry Certificates, dated 26th June 1901.

No. 4526,	Sergeant W. G. Watt,	"C"	Company.
„ 5814,	Private J. Gray,	"E"	„
„ 6391,	„ W. Melville,	"E"	„
„ 6495,	„ T. Ross,	"E"	„
„ 6440,	„ W. Davitt,	"E"	„
„ 6120,	„ J. Munro,	"F"	„
„ 6053,	„ G. Kay,	"F"	„
„ 6200,	„ J. Lumsden,	"F"	„
„ 5676,	Lce.-Corpl. D. Wilson,	"G"	„
„ 6375,	Private D. Donaldson,	"G"	„
„ 6248,	„ J. Murray,	"G"	„
„ 6238,	„ J. Smith,	"G"	„
„ 6078,	Lce.-Corpl. T. Peacock,	"H"	„
„ 613),	Private T. Paterson,	"H"	„
„ 6427,	„ H. Reid,	"H"	„

PRIZES.

Awarded Signalling prizes of Rs. 10 *each* :—

No. 3394,	Sergeant J. Durnan,	"F"	Company.
„ 3144,	„ W. Olden,	"A"	„
„ 5645,	Corporal H. Bracken,	"G"	„
„ 3851,	Private R. Smith,	"A"	„
„ 4330,	„ A. Kerr,	"B"	„
„ 3870,	„ J. Brown,	"C"	„
„ 3469,	„ A. Hamilton,	"E"	„

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service :—

No. 4484, Sergeant P. G. Matthew, "G" Company.

To complete twelve years' service with the colours :—

No. 4571, Private James Hiddles, "D" Company.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

The number "8058" has been allotted to Private W. Maclay, "D" Company.

TRANSFERS.

Inter-company :—

No. 5321,	Corporal P. Allan,	"G"	to	"H"	Company.
„ 6202,	„ J. MacInnes,	"G"	„	"E"	„
„ 5566,	Bandsman H. Wilson,	"D"	„	"H"	„
„ 5763,	Private R. Allison,	"H"	„	"C"	„

SERVICE RESTORED.

In accordance with para 1842 K R :—

No. 5142, Private P. McGhee, "F" Company.

„ 5549, „ T. McGuire, "H" „

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENTS.

"D" COMPANY.

Best Shots of Corporals and Privates.

			£	s.	d.
No. 4344,	Bandsman J. Burns		0	10	0
„ 5198,	Private J. Marshall		0	9	0
„ 5597,	„ A. Kerr		0	8	0
„ 6142,	„ W. Rastall		0	7	0
„ 5681,	„ J. Monteith		0	6	0
„ 7993,	„ G. Rodwell		0	5	9

Best Shots—Practices 7 to 12.

			£	s.	d.
No. 5597,	Private A. Kerr		0	5	0
„ 6142,	„ W. Rastall		0	4	0
„ 7993,	„ G. Rodwell		0	3	3
„ 4977,	„ W. Connell		0	3	0

Best Shot of Sergeants.

No. 3865,	Sergeant T. Campbell		0	7	7½

Best Shot, No. 6 Practice.

No. 4344,	Bandsman J. Burns		0	3	9¾

Best Shots, Moving Target, 200 yards.

No. 5535,	Private R. Watson		0	3	0
„ 4543,	Piper D. Finlayson		0	2	6
„ 5885,	Corporal W. Morrison		0	2	1½

Best Shots, Vanishing Target, 200 yards.

No. 5640,	Private C. Davie		0	3	0
„ 4977,	„ W. Connell		0	2	6
„ 3992,	„ A. Thomson		0	2	1½

Best Section, Collective Practices (O. C. Coy's Rounds)

No. 4 Section			0	15	3

"C" COMPANY.

Best Shots of Corporals and Privates.

No. 4906,	Private T. Craig		0	11	0
„ 4092,	„ J. White		0	10	0
„ 4417,	„ J. Riddell		0	7	0
„ 5560,	„ J. Laird		0	7	0
„ 5548,	Lce.-Corpl. J. MacDonald		0	7	0
„ 5516,	Private G. Anderson		0	6	0
„ 4311,	„ A. Wight		0	4	0
„ 4773,	Corporal A. Wilson		0	4	0
„ 5392,	Private R. Duncanson		0	4	0

Best Shots—Practices 7 to 12.

No. 4773,	Corporal A. Wilson		0	5	0
„ 5548,	Lce.-Corpl J. MacDonald		0	4	0
„ 5563,	Private J. Dott		0	4	0
„ 5392,	„ R. Duncanson		0	3	6
„ 4092,	„ J. White		0	3	6

Best Shot of Sergeants.

No. 3006,	Sergeant J. Ewan		0	10	0

Best Shot, No. 6 Practice.

No. 4417,	Private J. Riddell		0	5	0

Best Shots, Moving Targets, 200 yards (O. C. Coy's Rounds)

No. 3538,	Private J. Farquharson		0	4	10
„ 3885,	Lce.-Sergt. E. Mahoney		0	3	4
„ 6032,	Private J. Youngson		0	3	4
„ 5563,	„ J. Dott		0	3	4
„ 5516,	„ G. Anderson		0	3	4
„ 5099,	„ R. Forrest		0	3	4
„ 3966,	„ D. J. White		0	3	4
„ 5215,	„ M. Cairns		0	3	4
„ 4311,	„ A. Wight		0	3	4
„ 4874,	„ P. Gibson		0	3	0
„ 4286,	„ A. Foreman		0	3	0
„ 4906,	„ T. Craig		0	2	6

"G" COMPANY.

Best Shots, of Corporals and Privates.

No. 5589,	Lce.-Corpl. J. MacLaren		1	0	0
„ 4567,	„ Sergt. D. Inglis		0	14	0
„ 4292,	Private R. Stirratt		0	14	0
„ 4050,	„ E. Lillywhite		0	12	0
„ 6074,	„ W. Anderson		0	10	0
„ 5994,	„ A. Rice		0	8	0

Best Shot—Practices 7 to 12.

No. 5589,	Lce.-Corpl J. MacLaren		1	6	0

Best Shot of Sergeants.

No. 3236,	Sergeant R. Miller		0	13	0

Best Shots, No. 6 Practice.

No. 5269,	Private J. Skene		0	6	6

Best Section, Moving Target, 650 yards (C. O. Rounds.)

No. 1 Section			2	12	0

Lance-Corporal MacLaren, Drummer Coutts, Bandsman Lillywhite, Privates Adam, Brodie, D. Brown, Frew, Kerr, MacArthur, MacDonald, Mackillop, Nicholson, Stewart, *Section Commander*—Sergeant A. Lockie.

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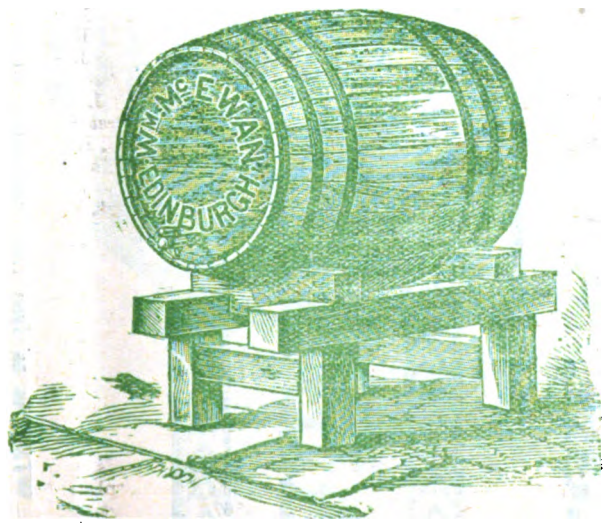

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SEPTEMBER 1901.

No 5
Vol VII

The Thin Red Line.

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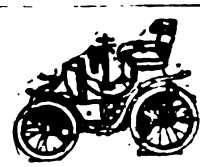

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NOW READY.
Vol. VI,
THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 5—Vol. VII. RANIKHET,—SEPTEMBER 1901. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

IN the *Indian Omnibus*, a Literary Circular, published by W. Newman and Co., Calcutta, we notice, among a list of recent publications, a book, recording his experiences during the siege of Pekin, by Mr. Nigel Oliphant, late of the Ninety-third. The volume is entitled "A Diary of the Siege of the Legations in Pekin during the Summer of 1900," and contains a preface by Andrew Lang. The price is Rs. 4-6-0. We sincerely wish Mr. Oliphant every success in his literary efforts.

* * * * *

The Standing Camp had "Sports" on one of the last days of July. There were no open competitions of any importance, and the chief interest centred in a knock-about "Briton *versus* Boer" display given by the Standing Camp Contingent. Our Band provided the musical part of the entertainment, and did not seem to enjoy it too much. The march "On the *qui vive*" was played about twelve times over while the display was being given. After that we can conclude that this march has been played out.

* * * * *

Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. Hill, Inspector-General of Gymnasia, paid a visit to Ranikhet early in the month. "G" Company—the Shield-holders—turned out to perform the Physical Drill exercises, but on account of the rain very little was done. We believe Colonel Hill passed a very favourable opinion on the physique of the company. 'F" Company and the Draft were inspected in the Gymnasium.

* * * * *

The suggestion put forward in the pages of our July Number, that some means be found of raising a fund in aid of the erection of a memorial over the graves of our comrades of the Ninety-first who fell on the battlefield of Magersfontein has met with a quick and ready response. As usual our Dramatic Club volunteered their services in helping to raise the necessary cash, and for three nights filled the Theatre by their untiring efforts. Mr. Gillatt, the energetic business and stage manager, expects to be able to forward a considerable sum to the promoters of the scheme.

* * * * *

At the examination held at Ranikhet on 29th July, 2nd-Lieutenants L. G. Fenzi, S. Langton, R. R. Forbes, and C. P. James passed in subjects (*a*) and (*b*) for promotion.

* * * * *

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Second-Lieutenant G. S. Douglas, King's Own Scottish Borderers, a probationer for appointment to the Indian Staff Corps, has joined the battalion, and been attached to "D" Company.

* * * * *

Lieutenant H. H. G. Hyslop took over the command and pay of "A" Company from the 9th August, and Lieutenant E. Elphinston the command and pay of "F" Company from the same date.

* * * * *

The annual joke about furloughs to warrant and non-commissioned officers desirous of wintering in Bonnie Scotland has appeared again. Whether the joke has gone far enough in the eyes of the "all powerful," and this offer is really genuine, is difficult to determine. At any rate so far as we know only one gambler in prospective furloughs tempts fate.

* * * * *

We entirely forgot to mention in our last issue that Color-Sergeant Hay was best shot of "A" Company with the splendid score of 231, out of a possible 252. It is doubtful whether this score will be beaten by any one in the battalion, but we hope, at least, to see the difference between the two top scores up to date reduced by some of the marksmen of the companies yet to be exercised. Sergeant Ogg, "H" Company, is at present the second highest scorer with 209 points to his credit.

* * * * *

Lance-Sergeant Inglis, one of the team now practising for the King's Cup competition, compiled the fine score of 101, out of a possible 105, a short time ago, the highest number of points obtained on the Ranikhet range during the two seasons the battalion has been in the station. The remainder of the team are also doing well, and should make a good place for themselves in the competition this year, though owing to the wet weather it is almost impossible to get sufficient practice, the range being occupied all day (when it is dry!) by the company performing the annual course.

* * * * *

Surgeon-General W. A. Catherwood, M. D., Principal Medical Officer, Bengal Command, paid an official visit to Ranikhet on the 12th August. Owing to the unsettled state of the weather—swimming costumes not forming part of the kit of the General and his Staff—the visit to barracks was necessarily of short duration.

* * * * *

The War Office have ruled that any description of rest may be used in practices 8 to 17 of the provisional Table B, Trained Soldiers' Course of Musketry, 1901.

* * * * *

Sergeant C. Clarke has been appointed 2nd class Sergeant-Instructor to the Agra Volounteer Rifle Corps.

* * * *

"F" Company completed their gymnastic and lead-picking course during the month, and "G" Company are their successors in performing on the right and left foot alternately up the rope, over the horse, down the ladder, etc., etc.

* * * * *

The General Officer Commanding at Aldershot has issued instructions to officers engaged with troops on field days that might with profit to all ranks be copied in this country: "On ordinary field days officers are to move about among their men, pointing out the best targets, and generally doing their best to give as much instruction as possible. On special occasions the caution 'War conditions' will be given with schemes, when all officers will take cover and act as in war."

* * * * *

"H" Company, notwithstanding the many disadvantages attached to firing in the thick of the monsoon weather, managed to total up the very respectable figure of merit of 143 for individual and 54 for collective practices. Out of 114 men exercised, 64 are marksmen, 46 are second-class and 4 are third-class shots.

"E" Company are the new dabblers in bulls'-eyes and misses.

* * * * *

To Captain Hyslop we offer our congratulations on his recent promotion, and hope that he will be allowed to remain with us.

* * * * *

Many are the rumours regarding our new shift. (Will we get one?). Almost every station in India has been mentioned as a likely place. However, while nothing seems settled about the reliefs it seems pretty certain that a few days' field firing will take us out in the Dwarahat direction, some time in November, and that our journey to the plains, though at a later date than last year, will be harassed in somewhat similar manner by savage enemies, the field of operations extending as far as Haldwani.

* * * * *

In a letter to his friends at home published in a Scottish paper, the remarks of a Volunteer of the 2nd Active Service Company, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders—written before the company joined the 1st Battalion—are worthy of note. "The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders," says the writer, "are not much spoken about at home, but out at the front they are supposed to be about the best soldiers stepping, and are thoroughly well thought of. For marching they can't be beaten."

* * * * *

A question of Orthography.—Under this title a paragraph in a recent issue of *M. A. P.* deals with the following:—

Is "Atholl" or "Athole" the right way to spell the name of this famous house? It was long disputed, as indeed was the orthography of the name of the other

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great Duke in the West, whose title and titular county are written indifferently Argyle and Argyll, though the late Duke of Argyll himself always used the double "l." The present Duke of Atholl settled the point, as far as he was concerned, some years ago, by notifying in the public press that "Atholl" not "Athole," was the orthodox spelling; and at the same time railway travellers in the Highlands saw the disappearance of the long familiar name of Blair-Athole from the little wayside station, and the substitution for it of the word as now written.

* * * * *

We take the following from *St. Andrew*, the Quarterly Record of the Life and Work of the Church of Scotland in India and Ceylon:—

PROPOSED MILITARY SCHOOL.

By Rev. J. Cameron, B.D., Lebong.

AN interesting suggestion has lately reached us, which if carried out would prove of great benefit to our Scottish regiments and Scottish soldiers generally. The suggestion is that there ought to be in Edinburgh or near it a Military School for soldiers' children. There are two such schools, the Duke of York's School in London and the Hibernian School in Dublin, where soldiers' children are educated and Army Schoolmasters are trained; but there is no similar school in Scotland. The want of a school on the lines of the English and Irish schools has often been felt by the Commanding Officers and Bandmasters of our Scottish regiments, and the proposal is sure to be warmly welcomed by all who are interested in our soldiers. The author of the suggestion is an officer in one of our Scottish regiments. He has put it forward at the present time both because of the changes about to be effected in our army organization at home and because, alas! the war must have left many children to be provided for. The proposal seems to us not only interesting but practical. There will be difficulties of course in the way of carrying out such a scheme; but if it is found on enquiry that there are sufficient boys to justify the institution of a separate Military School in Scotland, we are sure that the generosity of our people at home and the affection with which the whole nation regards our army will more than overcome any pecuniary difficulties.

* * * * *

The return of the 4th Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, (Paisley Militia) from active service in South Africa was expected, according to the last mail's news, to take place at an early date. The troopship *Canada* with the battalion on board sailed from Capetown on the 20th July, calling in at Las Palmas on the 31st, and was expected to reach Southampton on 5th August.

A fund has been raised by their old Colonel, Lord Blythswood, who headed the list with £100, to provide a suitable "welcome home" to the men. The arrangements include a dinner to the battalion on arrival, and the surplus of the fund raised to be devoted to assisting the men until they obtain employment. A Reception Committee has been formed who appeal to employers of labour throughout the country to find the men permanent situations as early as possible after their return home.

The following are expected home on the *Canada*:—Colonel A. C. D. Dick; Lieut.-Col. M. D. Campbell, Major J. T. Scott, Captains B. A. Cunningham, L. G. Pearson, W. Hall, H. H. Houldsworth, R. W. Campbell Preston; Lieutenants R. D. Falconer-Stewart, A. P. R. C. Campbell, H. G. Sotheby; 2nd-Lieutenant J. Ramsay, Lieutenant and Quartermaster Williamson and 577 men.

* * * * *

The latest improvements in arms, accoutrements, clothing, etc., are as we all know being continually experimented upon at Aldershot and other training grounds of the British army at home. Perhaps the following description of some of the articles now "on trial" taken from the *Aldershot News* will be of interest to our readers:—

The experimental short rifle designed for use by cavalry and mounted infantry is expected to supply a long-felt want inasmuch as it had often been remarked that the rifle proper had been found cumbersome by mounted troops. The new weapon is five inches shorter than the Lee-Enfield rifle, but has the same length of butt and breech mechanism. The wood stock completely envelops the barrel to within a few inches of the muzzle, and the sighting is on an improved principle. The foresight is very fine, ending in a tiny bead, which tends to assist rapid and more accurate aiming. It is protected from injury whilst in the bucket by a steel tube fixed to the barrel, through which the sight is taken. The back-sight, which is sunk to the level of the wood stock, is also improved upon, the slide being moved lengthwise and crosswise to act for elevation and windage. The weapon is, of course, lighter, and combines the advantages of the carbine with the carrying power and accuracy of aim of the rifle.

Experiments are also being tried with small rubber pads let into the heels of boots for the infantry with the object of reducing concussion with the ground whilst marching, so minimising fatigue. These are being tried, by the 1st King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment).

The experimental cloaks taken by the cavalry brigade on the operations suffered the same as others from the heavy rain. They are of light brown colour, and appear of a serviceable pattern. A double shoulder gives the appearance of a short cape attachment, the skirts being cut much after the pattern of the improved infantry overcoats.

Trials are also being given to leather gaiters of the now familiar pattern for riding purposes, as an alternative to jackboots or putties. These are fastened with studs in place of a spiral strap. Among other articles on trial is an improved spur, the strap of which is all in one piece.

* * * * *

From the *Oakleaf* we learn that Miss Schofield, so well known in the battalion, is leaving Quetta about the end of September for the purpose of building a Soldiers' Home in Ranikhet. The new home is the result of a gift of £3,000, and from the same lady who gave £4,000 to build the Quetta home.

* * * * *

Under the new scheme of organization of the army for home defence, the 34th Brigade, Field army, consisting of 1st V. B. Highland Light Infantry (Glasgow), 1st V. B. Royal Highlanders (Dundee), 4th V. B. Royal Highlanders (Perth) and the 5th V. B. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Argyllshire), did its fortnight's training

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at Barry Camp, Forfarshire, during the month of July. The following were the staff of the Brigade:—

Brigadier-General Commanding,
Colonel P. D. Trotter, Commading 91st Regimental District.

Aide-de-Camp.
Lieutenant Lord George Dundas, 3rd A. and S.H.

Brigade-Major.
Major A. H. Middleton, 3rd Bn., A. and S. H.

A Hopeless Case.

With apologies to all budding B. P's.

He blunders yet!
Will he ever learn at all,
How to wriggle, creep and crawl
Like a writhing reptile snake?
Alas! alack! we have to make
The sad confession—with regret—
He hasn't learnt to crawl—as yet.

He blunders yet!
After all those years of teaching,
All the "absent-minded" preaching;
Still retains that bad old plan
Of advancing like a man:
No wonder critics fume and fret
To see the same old blunders yet.

He blunders yet!
O'er an open plain he'll go
Right into a hidden foe;
Will he aggravate his sin?
Will he blunder in and WIN?
Our hearts are sad, our eyelids wet:
He makes that sad old blunder yet.

He blunders yet!
In the same old fashioned way,
No matter what we do or say;
On through murderous shot and shell
Right "into the mouth of hell."
From bad examples others set,
We reap the same old blunders yet.

He blunders yet!
Foreign critics near and far,
Skilled in all the arts of war,
Say he'd be the thing complete,
If he knew when he was beat:
And we feel our weakness keenly
As we tell them with regret,
We have tried our best to teach him,
But we haven't managed—yet.

L. F.

Two Thousand and One.

—o—

I RUBBED my eyes in surprise!

The man in the peculiar costume told me in a confidential whisper that he was a soldier.

"Don't tell anyone, for goodness sake," he said. "We have to keep carefully dark, in times of peace of course, because you see we are such an expense to the rate-payer that it is quite dangerous to belong to our profession. Are you going my way?"

To tell the truth, I didn't know which was the way, so I said so.

The soldier did not seem at all surprised, in truth he took everything in that matter of fact manner which I perceived was quite the fashion among these people.

With a movement of polite inquiry he murmured "You must be a stranger to these parts?"

I said I thought I was, but that I wasn't quite sure and he never expressed the slightest curiosity, which (with my knowledge of soldiers) surprised—nay shocked me!

I followed him in a speechless meandering kind of a way as he turned down the hollow subway, one of the many hundreds interwoven into a wonderful maze that startled one by their intricacy.

All at once my guide stopped.

"The gates are yet closed" he said, "and the gangways will not be in motion until 'Retreat.'"

"In motion—gangways?" I queried.

"Oh yes, you know," was the astonishing reply; "you must be out of date—the main thoroughfares all work on the hydraulic system. Walking is done away with."

I twisted my moustache in perplexity, and he apparently became utterly lost to the world in thought.

The crowd of jostling, rushing beings that flitted continuously through the subways, heedless of everything and everybody save the goal to which their busy feet hastened, seemed to be gradually increasing in numbers and vitality.

From an onlooker's point of view they were very nice and interesting, but I was unpleasantly surprised by the blind manner in which they mistook my toes for door-mats. I appealed to the soldier, finding that strong language was of no avail, and that the unfortunate creatures were as evidently smitten with deafness as they were with blindness.

He drew me hastily on one side whispering, in an apologetic way:

"You see, the world has changed since you left it, man has become a machine, an atom of that great Vital Force which has superseded Nature. Now yon fellow with the large globe-like eyes and chin in air is a great astrologer, his eyes have become abnormally large through his vigorous attempts to converse with Mars."

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"Have you really managed it at last?"

"We have not only managed to hold conversation with the inhabitants of Mars, my dear sir, but Government are seriously thinking of sending over a detachment of infantry. In fact I expect to find myself under orders."

I laughed; but my companion seized my arm.

"Hush! don't laugh or you are undone. There is nothing more severely forbidden than laughter before Retreat."

I collapsed.

And still the maddening crowd streamed by—up gangways, down subways, and along the dark'ning spiral lifts that formed the over-built mass of metallic structure, I once knew as London.

I drew back against the steel subways and surveyed them with varying feelings.

The soldier interrupted my thoughts.

"Ah! here you are—yonder," pointing to a being similarly dressed to himself, "yonder is a comrade in arms."

Had I not remembered the soldier's warning, I would certainly have broken regulations by laughing again. Luckly I managed to contain myself.

"But good gracious," I ejaculated between gasps for breath, "——what an enormous head he has!"

The fellow had a head like a balloon—so big in fact, that he was supporting it with his hands.

"He is a corporal," my companion said sympathetically.

"Does that make any difference?"

"Of course. All non-coms. undergo a course of drill books. The man you see has just completed his examination for promotion to sergeant, and is now preparing for a position in a work-house."

"Have you no system of pensions?"

"Pensions? Dear me, no! They were found to be such a farce that they were done away with years ago. Ah! there is Retreat"

There was a violent ringing of bells, and millions of little electric globes burst into a white and blinding glare.

The soldier laughed and beckoned to me to follow him.

"You will soon get accustomed to our ways," he said. "If you have nothing better to do, I will take you out to Windsor. My company is stationed there."

"You are on furlough I suppose?" I was following his rapid gliding steps in breathless haste.

"Nothing of the sort. I believe that furloughs were all the rage once, but now, you see, there is no necessity for such things."

"Indeed, and how is that the case?"

"Well, you know, if I should care to pay a visit to my aunt, say in Edinburgh, our system of travel is so perfect that by Government æropile I can be there and back again inside of two hours."

I smiled, the idea seemed to be so utterly American in its fabulous impossibility.

"You are incredulous," he continued. "The gangways are opened, come and see for yourself," and he led the way down a spiral staircase on to a large and brightly lit platform similar to one of those in the stations of the great metropolis. Overhead hung a large sign-board painted in black on a white ground.

"GOVERNMENT STAGE No. 2101."

My companion passed on towards a framework of metallic substance studded with countless buttons.

Pressing one of these marked, as I observed, with the number 77, I was astounded by hearing a cracked and unmelodious voice thunder forth from a protruding cylinder a tirade of numbers which the soldier apparently clearly understood as he nodded his head and smiled quite peacefully.

"We have fully half-an-hour to spare," he murmured throwing himself on to a bench.

Following his example, I begged an explanation of the unmelodious voice.

"Oh!" he said with a laugh, "I quite forgot. This button, marked 77, represents the suburb of London bearing that number, which is Windsor,—and the voice is merely a phonograph which does the duty of those painfully obnoxious old time institutions you called 'guards and porters.'

I felt shocked, perhaps I looked it.

"An official fills in the times and necessary information daily and passengers by pressing the buttons connect the currents, thus bringing the phonographs into working order."

At that moment an æropile dashed alongside the gangway with a shrill whistle and a great fizzing that set my blood curdling. It fastened taut with the gangway with a loud click and a number of persons streamed along the platform.

My companion drew my attention to a highly groomed individual whose collar apparently nearly stifled him. He was followed by some menials carrying large polo sticks.

"That," he said, "is an officer—a renowned officer, he has won all the polo championships of the world and he has invented a new species of the game which can be played without the slightest personal exertion. Oh, he is a great man!"

As the great man passed I rose and stiffened into the first position of a common private. My companion eyed me with contempt.

"Man alive!" he exclaimed as he pulled me down beside him. "That relic of barbarism was abolished years ago!"

I experienced the peculiar sensations of a man who has been sat upon, and I tried to change the subject by remarking that (it was no good talking

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about the weather—as I expected to be informed that *that* was done away with years ago!) that, I was feeling *rather* hungry, half dreading that I might hear that even food was abolished. But my friend was evidently equal to the emergency.

Drawing a pill box from one of his pockets he offered it to me magnanimously, remarking: "Here is plenty, eat!"

I viewed the contents (some half-dozen large brown lozenges) with a fainting heart and was about to return them with the information that I suffered badly from the toothache, when he checked me by saying:

"You are doubtless unaware that these lozenges are the very latest invention of the Patent Ration Department. The Council guarantee that one of these will appease all pangs of hunger for thirty-six hours."

I shivered and thought longingly of unwholesome half-baked coffee shop loaves. Lozenges—ugh!

Then I grew angry—the absurdity of the lozenge idea maddened me.

"Do you mean to tell me," I inquired with great heat, "do you mean to tell me that you have actually done away with the proverbial daily pound of soldier's bread? Why man, you have robbed the army of half of its romance!"

The fellow actually grinned!

"Romance?" he stuttered. "Oh yes, I believe *that* was cheap enough, once. People have told me something to that effect."

I could have choked him and his lozenges as well.

"They used to wear bright coloured coats, didn't they—red, or some such thing?"

I acquiesced.

"Somebody told me that the army actually used to fight!"

I told him that I believed they did do something in that line, and I was simply bursting to tell him about Wellington and Roberts and goodness knows who,—but I thought better of it, and sucked one of his blessed lozenges instead.

Then I thought I would be sarcastic, and asked him politely.

"And what do *you* do, friend—if fighting has been abolished years ago?"

"A question I will answer by a question!" he replied. "Of what use are fighting men when a dynamite shell from an æropile will wreck a fortification?"

"Perhaps you will tell me presently that even rifles are abolished?" I enquired in despair.

"My dear sir there never was found an inventor who could provide one that acted up to the marksmanship of the present day. Each invention grew worse as time went on carrying either to the right, left or short, but *never* too far!"

"And the result?"

"This." The soldier produced from his coat-tails with a great flourish—a pea-shooter!

I tried not to laugh.

"A deadly weapon," he continued with an air of triumph as though he were showing me a great invention, "a deadly weapon,—it will kill at three yards and wound at five."

And when I thought of the congenial recreation with which I had been provided by Government picking up stray bullets at the butts, a fierce wrath arose in my mind as I realized how the theory of a military genius had been wasted on empty air!

The soldier helped himself to a lozenge.

An inspiration seized me!

"Tell me one thing, friend, and I will ask no more."

He glanced inquiringly in my direction.

"Taking into consideration the minuteness of your Patent Ration, do you have a Commissariat?"

The soldier leered contemptuously.

"I have read of all these things. Of commissariats and quartermasters, of condemned potatoes and india-rubber bread. They are fables of the past, and with them have disappeared the relics of all old-time habits,—the coal fatigue (we use electricity), the officers, sergeants and other mess fatigues (we are soldiers and not housemaids) and as for that relic of Roman antiquity—the orderly man ——————!"

I had suffered so severely during the last few hours that I interrupted my talkative companion, and begged him, for the sake of my nerves, to break the news gently.

He looked sad as though struck with remorse.

His whole soul and the remains of that lozenge rose into his eyes as in a tone of tragic sorrow he murmured:

"They were time-honoured institutions—those orderly men—but their reign is over, they were abolished years ago ——————"

* * * *

And I awoke to hear the orderly sergeant dinning into my unwilling ears the fact that "the second pipes were off" and, as an after-thought of course, anxiously enquiring—

"Are you not Orderly Man?"

CAVEAT ACTOR.

———:o:———

Either Pain.

—o—

Twinkle, twinkle little Stars—
Bend your backs, ye ancient Tars!
In yon stop-butt high and sound
Forty bullets *must* be found.

Bullets near and bullets far,
Do you wonder where they are?
You should be well versed in Tactics
Since you're going through Gymnastics.

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Tales of the Mutiny.

—o—

Sir Colin Campbell and the Ninety-third.

THE following extracts from "The Tale of the Great Mutiny" in the *Cornhill Magazine*, will be found interesting:—

The 93rd was drawn up in quarter-distance column, on the extreme left of the line, as Colin Campbell rode down to review his forces that November afternoon. It was in full Highland costume, with kilts and bonnets and wind-blown plumes. Campbell's Celtic blood kindled when he reached the Highlanders.

"Ninety-third!" he said, "you are my own lads; I rely on you to do the work."

And a voice from the ranks in broadest Doric answered, "Ay, ay, Sir Colin, ye ken us and we ken you; we'll bring the women and children out of Lucknow or die wi' you in the attempt."

And then from the steady ranks of the Highlanders there broke a shout, sudden and deep and stern, the shout of valiant men—the men of the hardy North—pledging themselves to valiant deeds.

A Hindu's Treachery.

As the 93rd moved up the lane, Forbes-Mitchell relates how they saw sitting on the roadside a naked Hindu, with shaven head and face streaked with white and red paint, busy counting his rosary and unmoved by the tumult of battle. A Highlander said to a young staff-officer who was just passing, "I would like to try my bayonet on the hide of that painted scoundrel, sir; he looks like a murderer."

"Don't touch him," answered the staff-officer, "he is a harmless Hindu mendicant; it is the Muhammadans who are to blame for the horrors of the Mutiny."

Scarcely had he spoken the words when the Hindu stopped counting his beads, slipped his hand under the mat on which he sat, and, with a single movement, drew out a short bell-mouthed blunderbuss, and fired into the unfortunate staff-officer's breast, killing him instantly, and himself dying a moment afterwards, under the reddened bayonets of half a dozen furious Highlanders.

Ewart and the Colours.

Ewart found that two native officers had carried the regimental flag into a narrow and dark room, and were defending themselves like wild cats. Ewart leaped single-handed into the room and captured the colours, slaying both officers. The fight within the Secundrabagh was by this time practically over, and Ewart ran outside, and bare-headed, with blood-stained uniform and smoke-blackened face, ran up to Sir Colin as he sat on his grey horse, and cried, "We are in possession, sir! I have killed the last two of the enemy with my own hand, and here is one of their colours."

"D—— your colours, sir!" was the wrathful response of Sir Colin. "It's not your place to be taking colours. Go back to your regiment this instant, sir."

Sir Colin had a Celtic shortness of temper; the strain of waiting while the madness of the fight raged within the great walls had told on his nerves. He was eager to get his 93rd into regimental shape again; and, as Forbes-Mitchell argues, believed, from his appearance and bearing, that Ewart was drunk! So he was; but it was with the passion of battle!

—:o:—

Statement of a Bengali Pleader at Barisal.

—o—

"My learned friend with mere wind from a teapot thinks to browbeat me from my legs. But this is mere gorilla warfare. I stand under the shoes of my client, and only seek to place my bone of contention clearly in your honour's eye. My learned friend vainly runs amuck upon the sheet anchors of my case. Your honour will be pleased enough to observe that my client is a widow, a poor chap with one post-mortem son. A widow of this country, your honour will be pleased enough to observe, is not like a widow of your honour's country. A widow of this country is not able to eat more than one meal a day, or to wear clean clothes, or to look after a man. So my poor client had not such physic or mind as to be able to assault the lusty complainant. Yet she has been deprived of some of her more valuable leather, the leather of her nose. My learned friend has thrown only an argument *ad-hominy* upon my teeth, that my client's witnesses are all her own relations. But they are not near relations. Their relationship is only homœopathic. So the misty arguments of my learned friend will not hold water. At least they will not hold good water. Then my learned friend has said that there is on the side of his client a respectable witness, *viz.*, a pleader, and since this witness is independent so he should be believed. But your honour, with your honour's vast experience, is pleased enough to observe that truthfulness is not so plentiful as blackberries in this country. And I am sorry to say, though this witness is a man of my own feathers, that there are in my profession black sheep of every complexion, and some of them do not always speak gospel truth. Until the witness explains what has become of my client's nose leather he cannot be believed, he cannot be allowed to raise a castle in the air by beating upon a bush. So, trusting in that administration of British justice on which the sun never sits, I close my case."

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At the Memorial Gaff.

—o—

REVIEWING the progress of the dramatic art in our midst, say from about two years ago up to the present time, we—at least those of us who take a critical interest in the Thespian's tread—cannot deny the rapid strides our regimental amateurs have made in the right direction.

Content at one time to tickle our risible palates with the boisterous laughable sketch, about two years' ago our amateurs aroused themselves from their lethargy, and fused themselves into what we now know as the Regimental Dramatic Club.

From the laughable sketch, or farce, to burlesque, doesn't seem much of a stride certainly, but when we come to look back and think how often "Black Justice" was billed—under a new name *every* time, as a matter of course—and dealt out to an unoffending battalion, we will surely admit that burlesque, if nothing else, was a decided relief.

Ever since their initial effort to vary the old order of "Gaffing," the Club has advanced rapidly, until at the present time, rather a good class of musical farce is the rule, not the exception: proving what can be done by a little cohesion, and untiring honest rehearsing.

But why stop short at musical farce? Why not make yet another bold step further? For after all is said, surely the true field for the comedian—with ambition—is legitimate comedy.

Programme.

ENTERTAINMENT

Under the distinguished Patronage of

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. H. CAMPBELL.

To be held on

5th, 6th and 7th August 1901.

In aid of erecting suitable memorials over the graves of the

OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND MEN

of the

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders,

Who fell at Magersfontein on 11th December 1899.

PART I.

1. *Song (Descriptive)* "Play us an old come all ye" Pte. ARMOUR.
2. ... ... The Two Macs
3. *Song* ... ... "Lazily, Drowsily" Mrs. STEWART.
4. *Song (comic)* .. ... "Fancy I'm off the earth." Lance-Corpl. BRISLAND.
5. *Song* ... ... "Goufin". Capt. Darroch
6. ... ... The "Star" Troupe of Acrobats
7. *Song (comic)* ... ... "Give us a bit of your Kilt" Pte. F. WAINWRIGHT.

Interval of ten Minutes.

PART II.

A Chinese Musical Extravaganza.
Entitled
"THE SHOWMAN ABROAD."

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Yen-How.	*A Mandarin.*	Mr. J. B. Gillatt.
Li-Ah	*His general Mis-Manager*	Pte. C. Armour.
Benjamin Buster	*Of the Cosmopolitan Show.*	Pte. F. Wainwright.
Jemmy-Swivel		L.-C. Brisland.
Belinda Buster	*Their Thirsty Wives.*	Pte. C. Painter.
Selina Swivel		Pte. T. Warnock.

State Umbrella bearer, State Punkah Wallahs.
Standard bearers, guards, etc., etc.

SCENE.

The gardens of Yen-How's Sea-side Pagoda.

The songs and dances are selected from "San Toy," "The Belle of New York," "The Geisha," etc., and arranged by Bandmaster W. H. Davies.

Conductor.
BANDAMASTER W. H. DAVIES.

INCIDENTAL MUSIC.

1. *Duet* ... ... "Samee Gamee"
(BELINDA AND LI-AH)
2. *Song and Dance* ... ... "Googan's Fancy Ball"
(SWIVEL)
3. *Song* ... "I mean to introduce it into China"
(BUSTER)
4. *Pas de Quatre*
(BELINDA, SELINA, SWIVEL, AND LI-AH)
5. *Song* ... ... "Two little Wives"
(YEN-HOW)
6. *Song* ... ... "Chin, Chin, Chinaman"
(LI-AH)

Finale ... ... "Back to London"
(OMNES)

Note.

During two of the performances a Gymnastic Competition will take place between Lce.-Corpl. Brisland and Pte. Williams.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

As a drawing item probably the competition between Corporal Brisland and Private Williams, for seventy rupees, took an easy first place. The fact of Brisland passing out at the head of his class, in his recent course at Lucknow was sufficient to win for him many supporters although perhaps Williams—late Sergeant-Instructor on the Lucknow staff, and "Palmer leap" fame—was more fancied especially by the older hands.

The conditions of the contest were:—Six set exercises on the parallel bar, six marks for each exercise, possible, thirty-six marks. On horizontal bar the conditions were the same, making total possible marks seventy-two. Previously both competitors had agreed to Captain Hyslop acting as judge, and Corporals Montgomery and Lovell setting the exercises.

At the first night's entertainment it was arranged to dispose of the first half of the competition, previous to the opening of the stage entertainment. It would certainly be treading

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on dangerous ground to enter into the detail of the various exercises set. In that branch yclept "free" we might indeed venture on a few technicals, but to plunge into a maze of "plants," "cutaways," etc: no, sirs, no, we can imagine "Peter" and "Pucho" after our blood, and we *don't* like the idea. Let it suffice to say both competitors, throughout the exercises set, displayed a gracefulness of pose and muscular strength that drew the applause of the audience at every exercise. To the ordinary "free" gymnast hardly any difference in the form of the competitors was perceptible, but probably there *are* a few little points the "free" gymnast isn't quite capable of adjudicating on.

Almost as soon as the "voluntaries" were finished, Captain Hyslop announced the result: Williams 34 points: Brisland 30⅛: the applause that followed clearly indicated the fairness of Captain Hyslop's decision.

The second night's entertainment brought the competition to a finish. At about the same time, preceding the stage performance, work was started on the horizontal bar. After some splendid work by both men, on which of a surety only a gymnast could venture an opinion, Captain Hyslop announced the result: Williams 33½ points; Brisland 32½.

I would certainly be unfair to overlook mentioning Corporals Montgomery and Lovell, and the capable manner in which they set the selected exercises. As an indication of the popular voice we may mention that we've heard not a few complimentary remarks on "Paddy's plants" and "Monty's strong work."

Item (1) on the programme "Play us an old come all ye" by Private Armour, was without doubt one of the big successes of the gaff. "Charlie" attained a standard of excellence in this song seldom reached by the "descriptive" amateur. The staging of the song was all that could be desired. Gronped round a camp fire on the open veldt in various lounging positions, the "boys" of the song are whiling away the time playing cards, while "Patsy Burke" of the song accompanies the singer on the violin. We have no doubt that "Patsy Burke" will be the "barrack-room ballad" until the next gaff.

The "Two Macs" filled up the second turn with a song "The Rileys."

No. 3 on the programme, "Lazily, Drowsily," a song by Mrs. Stewart. Even if Mrs. Stewart had not shown talent rarely apart from the legitimate concert platform, the fact that she was the only lady on the programme would have secured for her the respectful attitude of a not altogether unappreciative audience. Of the four songs Mrs. Stewart sung during the course of the three nights' entertainment, two were encore songs "I will" and "A Soldier's grave;" two were programmed "Killarney" and "Lazily, Drowsily." Seldom has the regiment had the pleasure of listening to so refined a rendering as Mrs. Stewart's "Lazily, Drowsily."

To speak of "Killarney" in fact of the less ambitious encore songs would be but to repeat ourselves, for there is only one term applicable to Mrs. Stewart's voice and manner in the interpretation of all her songs.

In his turn "Fancy I'm off the Earth" Brisland was deservedly encored each evening.

In his song "Goufin" Captain Darroch gave a good interpretation of the only "bit o' scotch" on the programme. We overheard some one say "Duncan *wis* a comic *a'* the same." No, thank goodness Duncan *isn't* a comic, it's such a relief to run against a humorist now and then.

The "Star Troupe of Acrobats" turn was a good show of ground tumbling by our regimental gymnastic instructors.

The next turn was taken by Private Wainwright with a comic song "Give us a bit of your kilt."

Of the various extra turns during the three night's run, Foreman and Warner as the two Macs, and Private Dale with violin solo were deservedly appreciated.

How many of us ever give a thought to the amount of real hard work there is behind the fairly good class of musical farce, such as formed the second part of our three nights' entertainment.

The yarn or thread on which the songs are strung is slight, but quite strong enough to bear up the weight of the light catchy airs selected from various light operas favoured at home.

The desired end of the farce of course was undoubtedly to give us the cream of recent light opera, without of course running it—an impossibility by the way. The desired end was fairly well attained in the "Showman Abroad."

All the songs went well, so there is no absolute necessity for comparisons or preferences. It came as a surprise to not a few of us to discover Mr. Gillat as an active gaffonian once more, we hope with many, he'll continue to assist in working up entertainments to the good standard attained by the "Memorial" Gaff.

MR. AFLALO, the well-known naturalist, tells this little story of "Lord" George Sanger in his "About Animals" column, contributed every Tuesday to the pages of a morning paper:—

The mayor of a certain town in the Midlands had rather fussily insisted on being satisfied as to the safety of the accommodation and also as to the security of the public from such dangerous animals as travelled with the show. Having been shown a particularly ill-tempered leopard, the little mayor severely interrogated the imperturbable "Lord George." 'What steps would you propose taking if that ferocious beast got out of its cage?" he asked. "——d long ones!" replied the proprietor, turning away to attend to more serious business.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

That he rackit his inside practising the high jump.

That he very nearly performed it.

That he wis cleaning the hoose.

That he took a weak turn on the road.

That a certain individual is sure there is a saucer-eyed spring in the Lee-Enfield.

That Pihla wis present and correct.

That he thocht it wis at ony rate.

That Brigade-markers is a new admittance to hospital—so the pot says.

That the T. X. are getting their new claes.

That it's got *forty*. (The password for the season by the way).

That free gymnastics is grand exercise.

That position and the colour o' ane's pants is everything.

That it's guid beer in *oor* mess.

That he wanted a wee *tora* tea and a mask o' the sugar.

That it's keep your eye down, Jim.

That it's hard lines when a—cook canna cook a *tora* fire.

That he wanted some ash to light his pipe, and thocht he wis talking the *bat* when he asked for some *ague*.

That "F" Company should win the high jump at the sports.

That they hae a champion wi' a record o' 29 feet 5 inches.

That the wet water wetted the spats.

———: o :———

1901-02 Musketry Course.

—o—

The following are the *twelve best shots* exercised with their companies:—

"A" Company.

		Score.
1.	No. 2516, Colonel-Sergeant J. Hay	231
2.	„ 3022, Lance-Sergeant W. Moat	206
3.	„ 5493, Corporal J. Hudgton	205
4.	„ 4531, Private C. Armour	204
5.	„ 5358, Lance-Corporal J. Stewart	201
6.	„ 6709, Private G. Scarff	198
7.	„ 3930, „ W. McMaster	197
8.	„ 5199, „ G. Dott	192
9.	„ 4304, „ A. Hansen	187
10.	„ 5584, Piper J. Burns	183
11.	„ 5226, Private W. Halliday	182
12.	„ 5333, „ P. Hay	182

"H" Company.

		Score.
1.	No. 4941, Sergeant J. Ogg	209
2.	Captain W. J. B. Tweedie	199
3.	No. 4682, Private A. Gray	196
4.	„ 5017, „ J. Scott	195
5.	„ 6448, „ C. Turnbull	195
6.	„ 3116, Colonel-Sergeant W. R. Weller ...	193
7.	2nd-Lieutenant D. Henderson	192
8.	No. 6392, Private G. Rarity	185
9.	„ 4761, „ A. Bowe	185
10.	„ 5456, „ J. Burns	184
11.	„ 6351, „ J. Livingstone	184
12.	„ 5990, „ J. Bridges	183

Briton *v.* Boer.

—o—

Two soldiers lying as they fell
  Upon the reddened clay,
In daytime foes, at night, in peace,
  Breathing their lives away.
Strong heart stirred each manly breast,
  Fate only made them foes,
And lying dying side by side
  A softened feeling rose.

"Our time is short," one faint voice said,
  "To-day we've done our best
On different sides, what matters now,
  To-morrow we're at rest.
Life lies behind, I would not care
  For only my own sake,
But far away are other hearts
  That this day's work will break.

"Among old Scotland's pleasant fields
  There pray for me to-night
A woman and a little girl,
  With hair like golden light."
And at that thought brought forth at last
  The cry of anguish wild,
That would no longer be repressed—
  "Oh, God! my wife and child."

"And," said the other dying man,
  "Across the sandy plain
There wait and watch for me loved ones
  I'll never see again.
A little girl, with dark, bright eyes,
  Each day waits at the door;
The father's step, the father's kiss,
  Will never meet her more.

"To-day we sought each other's lives,
  Death levels all that now,
For soon before God's mercy seat
  Together we must bow.
Forgive each other while we may,
  Life's but a weary game,
And, right or wrong, the morning sun
  Will see us dead—the same."

The dying lips the pardon breathe,
  The dying hands entwine,
The last ray dies, and over all
  The stars of heaven doth shine;
And the little girl with golden hair,
  And one with dark eyes, bright,
On Scotland's fields and sandy plain
  Were fatherless that night.

Old 93rd (In Dundee *Weekly News*).

———: o :———

Scot free.

—o—

Go early to bed and be early to rise.
You'll never succeed if you don't advertise.
So be up-to-date in wet weather and slosh.
Try the latest of patents—our new *macintosh*.

SCENE: Guard-room.
HOUR: Last Post.

Obnoxious Private: "I'm not drunk."

Impressive Sergeant: "Take off your boots."

Obnoxious Private: "Noo Sairgent am I drunk?"

Impressive Sergeant: "No! only half-drunk."

Obnoxious Private: "Then Sairgent I'll only tak off one shoe."

Collapse of escort—Impressive Sergeant finds he has the wrong key and goes to look for the right one.

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Temperance Topics, &c.

—o—

An excellent lecture on the evils of intemperance was delivered in the Theatre on the 10th instant, by the Revd. A. H. Bowman, a Missionary to Europeans in India. Through an unfortunate mistake on the part of the Secretary, the attendance on the first night was not so strong as it might have been.

The reverend gentleman ably described the dangers to which the habitual tipster is subject; also by a series of illustrations, gave us a horrifying idea of the state, which the masticating organs of the Bacchanalian disciples are reduced to. The Colonel, (who previously had distributed the honors) endorsed the speaker's discourse by a few well chosen words, with reference to his own men, and concluded by calling for a vote of thanks, which was heartily responded to.

During his short stay here, Mr. Bowman lectured on the gods of India and the Great Mutiny. Both of these lectures were well attended; in fact the crowded state of the Theatre, at the latter one, necessitated a number of men remaining outside, listening as well as they could through the open doors.

In addition to these lectures, the reverend gentleman held an evangelistic service every evening in St. Peter's Church. They attracted a large number of our men, particularly on the 11th and 18th at Evensong, which vividly reminded us of our late and popular *padre*, Mr. Roche, who is now doing good work for the Church of Scotland at Murree, and Pindi; and is as popular there as he was with us.

Names of those who were awarded honors at the last distribution :—

CRUIKSHANK BADGE FOR 6 MONTHS.

Lce.-Corpl. Tawse,	"D"	Coy.	Pte. Burns,	"C"	Coy.
" Peacock,	"H"	"	" Elder,	"C"	"
Private McVea,	"C"	"	" Stanley,	"C"	"
" Graham	"D"	"	" Allan,	"D"	"
" Howson,	"E"	"	" Gallaghar,	"E"	"
" Davitt,	"E"	"	" McLean,	"E"	"
" Melville,	"E"	"	" Allan,	"F"	"
" Gallaghar,	"F"	"	" Jamieson,	"F"	"
" McCreath	"F"	"	" Bradley,	"H"	"
" Comrie,	"H"	"	" Cattenach,	"H"	"
" Ferguson,	"H"	"	" Keeble,	"H"	"
" Perston,	"H"	"	" Richardson,	"H"	"
" Conway,	"C"	"	" Wight,	"C"	"
" Allan,	"G"	"	" Gibson,	"G"	"
" Wilson,	"G"	"	" Brodie,	"H"	"

Lance-Corpl. Watson, "D" Company.

FIRST YEAR MEDAL.

Corpl. Duff,	"F"	Coy.	Pte. Anderson,	"G"	Coy.
Piper Gunn,	"A"	"	" McGregor,	"G"	"
Pte. Foster,	"C"	"	" Sewell,	"G"	"

Private King, "C" Company.

"LOCKHART" BAR OF FIDELITY FOR 2 YEARS.

Lce.-Cpl. Hiddles	"D"	Coy.	Pte. Campbell,	"F"	Coy.
Pte. Baillie,	"D"	"	" Miller,	"F"	"

Private Anderson, "E" Company.

"BEATTY" STAR FOR 3 YEARS.

Pte. Hearn,	"F"	Coy.	Pte. McEachern,	"F"	Coy.
" Miller,	"F"	"	" Roberts,	"G"	"

"EXCELSIOR" BAR FOR 4 YEARS.

Pte. Dale,	"A"	Coy.	Pte. Simpson,	"H"	Coy.

"WHITE" STAR FOR 5 YEARS.

Piper Burns,	"A"	Coy.	Pte. McMahon,	"C"	Coy.

SEVEN YEARS MEDAL

Sergt. Sutherland,	"F"	Coy.	Cpl. Buchanan,	"B"	Coy.

COMMITTEE MEN'S MEDAL.

Sergt. Maskell,	"B"	Coy.	Piper Burns,	"A"	Coy.
			Pte. Boyd,	"C"	Company.

ASSOCIATION MEDAL,

Sergt. Sutherland,	"F"	Coy.	Pte. Boyd,	"C"	Coy.

E. M.

———:o:———

Musketry up-to-date.

—o—

(From a Volunteer Adjutant)

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Lectures on Musketry are all the rage now.

The latest joined sub was detailed to lecture to his Company on "Theoretical Principles." He had prepared his lecture well, but unfortunately the C. O. turned up to listen; which rather put him off his balance. However he acquitted himself fairly well; and I dare say the men understood as much about the subject as they would have done had the C. O. himself delivered the lecture.

For instruction and guidance, I attach a verbatim report of the lecture as far as it went.

Yours etc.,

R. D. T.

LECTURE.

My lecture this morning is on the "Theoretical Principles" of Musketry. A most important subject, a-hem. The atmosphere is an elastic fluid compesed of monthly Progress Returns, the size of a shilling on a white ground, who are to make themselves acquainted with this important duty by attaching the swivel to the gravity of the trajectory, which scarcely deviates from a Bull one foot in diameter, the fixed points being thrown out over the top of the foresight in the direction of the Sergeant-Instructor of Musketry who is useless and an incumbrance to the Battalion.

The ranges are to be surveyed by a committee composed of a Mekometer and two District Inspectors of Musketry who are to be carefully wiped with an oiled rag until the tendency to open the left eye is overcome. No sand paper or other hard substance is to be used in this operation.

The danger flag will then be raised at the markers' butt, the sights being kept upright, head slightly inclined forward, elbow to the rear. The practice will be continued until he becomes a casual or a third class shot, when his mean deviation is to be removed from the Magazine by means of a diagram, kneeling, the left eye being placed round the Trigger guard.

C. O.—"Thank you Mr. Fathead, I think that will do for to-day."—*Oakleaf.*

Here is an instance of sly exaggeration, almost Yankee-like. Two cronies in Auchterarder were one day disputing as to who remembered the most windy day. One of the worthies said "he minded it's bein' sic a win' that it took the craws three 'oors to flee hame to their wud from such and such a field," only a mile distant. The other said: "Hech, man, ah've seen't that windy that the craws hed tae *walk* hame."

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The Bengal-Punjab Rifle Association.

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HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY will present prizes to the B.-P. R. A. similar to those given last year, namely:—1 Gold Medal for Regular and Volunteer Officers. Three Silver Medals: 1 for British Cavalry and Artillery; 1 for British Infantry; 1 for Volunteers. 3 Bronze Medals: 1 for British Infantry; 1 for Volunteers. 2 Silver Medals: 1 for Native Cavalry and 1 for Native Infantry. 2 Bronze Medals: 1 for Native Cavalry and 1 for Native Infantry. His Excellency will also give Rs. 600 in cash.

H. H. the Maharaja of Sirmoor has notified that he intends again this year to present a Silver Cup to the British Officer under the rank of Captain, who makes the highest score in the championship: this is with a view to encouraging rifle shooting among young officers.

His Excellency Sir Power Palmer is presenting prizes to be competed for as follows:—A Silver Cup, value Rs. 500, to the British Service (including Volunteers) and a similar Cup to the Native Army. A Magdala Gold Medal to the best shot in the Native Army teams. The Cups will be awarded to the team of six of all ranks making the highest aggregate score at the annual meetings of the following Associations:—Bengal Rifle Association at Meerut, Southern India Rifle Association at Bangalore, Bombay Presidency Rifle Association at Poona, Hyderabad Rifle Association at Secundrabad, Burma Rifle Association at Mandalay, Sind and Baluchistan Rifle Association at Quetta. Distance 200, 600 and 1,000 yards. To enable the Cups to be presented at Meerut, if won by a team competing there, all competitions other than at Meerut are to close by the 10th December. 1,000 yards is to be fired at for the first time this year.

The B.-P. R. A. have decided to introduce the targets and firing positions of the National Rifle Association this year. Regiments which enter for the Army Rifle Association Matches will in future only have to keep up one set of match targets the dimensions of which are as follows:—

3RD CLASS.—Bull's-eye, 7 inches; Inner, 14 inches; Magpie, 21 inches in diameter; outer, remainder of target 4ft. square.

2ND CLASS—Bull's-eye, 20 inches; Inner, 30 inches; Magpie, 40 inches in diameter; Outer, remainder of target 6ft. square.

1ST CLASS.—Bull's-eye, 3ft.; Inner, 4½ ft.; Magpie, 6ft. square; outer, remainder of target, 6ft. by 12ft.

POSITION.—Any military.

—: o :—

Monsoon Manias.

DURING the wet weather that prevails the pinnacle is full of life; almost daily there have been competitions of some sort. The following are among the most notable and exciting:—Draughts, Cards, Quoits, "C" Company; Cards, Quoits, "B" Company.

"C" COMPANY.

CRIBBAGE.

Semi-Final.—Pte. Jack beat Darwood.
„ Holden „ Leitch.
Final.— „ Holden „ Jack.

CHIBBY.

Semi-Final.—Pte. Soutar beat Pte. Marklew.
„ McKay „ „ McMillan.
Cairns and Cassidy—a bye.
Final.— Soutar beat Cairns.
McKay „ Cassidy.

BEZIQUE.

Semi-Final.—Pte. Wright beat 4972 Kerr.
Cassidy—a bye.
Final.— Pte. Cassidy „ Wright.

"B" COMPANY.

DON.

Semi-Final.—Pte. Morrison beat Pte. McLean.
„ Kerr „ Corpl. Gillespie.
Ptes. Robertson and Glass—a bye.
Final.— Robertson beat Morrison.
Glass „ Kerr.
Referee—F Marklew.

DRAUGHTS.

Kerr conceded 3 points to all except the Company team. Smith and Gunn conceded 2 points to all.

Out of 26 entries the following twelve were the best, the three highest obtaining prizes:—

Pte.	Wight,	166 points.	Pte.	Duncanson	142 points.
„	Laird,	165 „	„	Kerr	133 „
Corpl.	Wilson,	162 „	„	Smith	132 „
Pte.	Darwood,	161 „	„	Gunn	127 „
„	Clements,	148 „	„	Soutar	122 „
Lce.-Cpl.	McDonald	144 „	„	Forrester	120 „

J. L.

Flat Racing.

Private Mossman v. *Private McArthur*, ½ mile, for Rs. 80. This match was looked forward to with some interest, the general desire being to see what sort of shape McArthur would make against his more experienced opponent. McArthur took the lead and held it throughout by a space which varied from seven to twelve yards, finally passing the tape with his opponent five yards behind. The turf was very heavy, consequently the time was bad.

Private Cairns v. *Private Comrie*, 100 yards, for Rs. 100. Cairns conceded the latter one yard, but never throughout the race lessened the concession. Comrie drew away from his man 30 yards from the starting point, and maintaining his lead won comfortably by 2½ yards.

Corporal McCrae v. *Lce-Corporal Silcock*, 100 yards, for Rs. 60. Silcock easily out-paced his man and finished with five yards to spare.

N.B.—The following matches are expected to take place next month:—Mossman *v.* McArthur, ½ mile, for Rs. 400. Private Muir, "F" Company, *v.* Private Pollock, "D" Company, ½ mile, for Rs. 80. E.M.

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Ninety-third Calendar for October 1901.

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1 Tu. Establishment raised to 25 officers, 43 sergeants, 21 drummers and pipers and 820 rank and file=909, 1877. Tochi Campaign: return of second column to Datta Khel from Khaza Valley, 1897.
2 W. Returned to Sheranni from second Khaza column, 1897.
3 Th. Zowe column under General Egerton left Sheranni, 1897.
4 F. 2nd Battalion 93rd on H. M. frigate *Galatea* and troopship *Tyne* left Newfoundland for Sunderland, 1815.
5 S.
6 S.
7 M. New colours presented by Duke of Wellington at Canterbury, 1834; these colours were carried through Crimean Campaign and are now in Glasgow Cathedral. Murree Football Cup, won, 1896.
8 Tu.
9 W.
10 Th. Wing from Sialkot to Lahore for Durbar, 1864; Sir John Lawrence, K. C. B., Viceroy and Governor-General.
11 F.
12 S. Fourth attack of cholera at Peshawar necessitating move into camp, 1862. Frontier Medals distributed, Chaubattia, 1898.
13 S. Canterbury for Weedon by detachments, 1834.
14 M. Canterbury for Weedon, 1834.
15 Tu. Canterbury for Weedon, 1834.
16 W. Halifax for Quebec, 1838.
17 Th. Siege of Sevastopol commenced, 1854. Four companies to Ferozepore, 1864.
18 F. Tochi Campaign:—Return of Zowe column to Sheranni, 1897.
19 S.
20 S. Lieut.-Colonel Rothe retired, 1853.
21 M. William Bernard Ainslie, Lieut.-Colonel, 1853.
22 Tu Head-quarter Wing left Chaubattia for Almora manœuvres, 1898.
23 W. Arrived, Guernsey, from Fort George, 1800; fully armed and equipped. Establishment reduced to 35 sergeants, 22 drummers, 650 rank and file, 1817.
24 Th.
25 F. 2nd Battalion, 93rd, disembarked, Sunderland, from Newfoundland, 1815. Battle of Balaclava, the "Thin Red Line" of glorious memory, 1854. Tochi Campaign: third Khaza column left Sheranni, 1897.
26 S.
27 S. Embarked by detachments at Liverpool for Dublin, 1835. Returned, Sialkot, from Lahore, December, 1864.
28 M.
29 Tu. Embarked Liverpool for Dublin, 1835. Arrived Quebec from Halifax, 1838. Colonel F. W. Traill-Burroughs relinquished Command, 1873. Returned from Almora manœuvres, 1898.
30 W. William Macbean, Lieut.-Colonel, 1873.
31 Th. Arrived, Montreal from Quebec, 1838. Tochi Campaign: Sudda Khan, Chief of the Mudda Khel Waziris, surrendered to General Corrie-Bird at Inzar Kuch, 1898.

Corporals' Billiard Handicap.

—o—

FIRST ROUND.

Corpl. Wilson (scratch), beat Corpl Greenland (30) ... 100 to 69
,, Hudghton (30), beat Lce.-Corpl. Walker (scratch) .. 100 to 64
Lce.-Corpl. McDonald (scratch), beat Corpl. Lynch (50)... 100 to 99
,, Youngson (a bye).
,, Campbell (30), beat Lce.-Corpl. S. Wilson (scratch) ... ... 100 to 93
Corpl. Moat (50), beat Corpl. Kelly (scratch) ... ... 100 to 95
Lce.-Corpl. Silcock (scratch), beat Corpl. Atkinson (40)... 100 to 95
,, Tawse (scratch), beat Lce.-Corpl. Ellis (10) ... 100 to 93
,, Gilmour (scratch), beat Lce.-Corpl. Stewart (30) 100 to 94
,, Wilson ,, ,, ,, Young (20) ... 100 to 96
Corpl. Duff (10), beat Corpl. Blacklock (scratch) ... ... 100 to 56

SECOND ROUND.

Corpl. Hudghton (30), beat Corpl. Duff (scratch) ... 100 to 99
Lce.-Corpl. Gilmour (10), beat Lce.-Corpl. Tawse (scratch), 100 to 96
,, McDonald (scratch), beat Lce.-Corpl. Campbell (50) ... ... 100 to 71
,, Wilson (scratch), beat Corpl. Wilson (scratch) 100 to96
,, Youngson (50), beat Lce.-Corpl. Silcock (30)... 100 to 98

THIRD ROUND.

Corpl. Moat (scratch), beat Lce.-Corpl. Youngson (scratch) 100 to 49
Lce.-Corpl. McDonald (scratch) beat Lce.-Corpl. Gilmour (scratch) ... ... 100 to 669
Corpl. Hudghton (30), beat Lce.-Corpl. Wilson (scratch) 100 to 89

SEMI-FINAL.

Lce.-Corpl. McDonald (scratch), beat Corpl. Hudghton(40), 100 to 98
Corpl. Moat (a bye)

FINAL.

Lce.-Corpl. McDonald (scratch), beat Corpl. Moat (80) ... 200 to 190

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACTS FROM "LONDON GAZETTE."

Dated 6th August 1901.

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders):—Lieutenant H. H. G. Hyslop to be Captain in succession to Major A. F. Mackenzie, Adjutant, 3rd Battalion.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant:—No. 5219, Lance-Sergeant M. Sutherland, "F" Company, dated 7th July 1901.

To be Corporals.—No. 5838, Lance-Corporal C. Fraser, "E" Company, dated 7th July 1901.

PAY OF RANK AND ESTABLISHMENT.

To be paid Lance-Sergeant.—No. 3022, Corporal W. Moat, "A" Company, dated 7th July 1901.

To be paid Lance-Corporals.—No. 5690, Lance-Corporal P. Brisland, "G" Company, dated 7th July 1901; No. 3839, Lance-Corporal W. Campbell, "B" Company, dated 7th July 1901; No. 5378, Lance-Corporal C. Campbell, "H" Company, dated 10th August 1901.

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GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 2d. per diem—

"C" Company.

No. 5548, Pte. J. MacDonald. | No. 5539, Pte. D. McIntosh.

"E" Company.

No. 5021, Private "G" Duncan.

"F" Company.

No. 5344, Private H. E. Robson.

"G" Company.

No. 4364, Private J. Laird.

At 1d. per diem—

"A" Company.

No. 5582, Pte. J. Allison. | No. 7082, Boy W. Allan.

"F" Company.

No. 5484, Private G. Ure.

"G" Company.

No. 4207, Private R. Nicholson.

EXTENSION OF SERVICE.

To complete twelve years' service with the colours—

No. 5530, Sergeant S. Gurney, "A" Company.
" 5654, Drummer F. Logan, "G" "

To complete twelve years' service with the colours on receiving a bounty of Rs. 150, with an additional gratuity of Rs. 247-8-0, in lieu of furlough to England, under the provisions of G. O. C. C. 716 of 1901—

"A" Company.

No. 3872, Pte. J. Gray. | No. 5060, Pte. J. Kelly.
" 4789, " T. Sheridan. | " 5189, " H. Allan.
No. 3851, Private R. Smith.

"B" Company.

No. 5107, Pte. E. McMenemy. | No. 4293, Lance-Corporal G. Newall.
No. 4981, Pte. P. Malone. | No. 5065, Pte. F. Halkerston.

"C" Company.

No. 4102, Private F. Marklew.

"D" Company.

No. 4323, Pte. R. Easton, | No. 5194, Pte. H. Brown.
No. 5279, Private T. Pollock.

"E" Company.

No. 4757, Pte. R. Cullen. | No. 4706, Pte. R. Bain.
No. 5320, Private J. Davies.

"F" Company.

No. 3713, Pte R. Rees. | No. 5438, Pte. T. Brown.
" 430, " W. Morrison. | " 5135, " H. J. Turnbull.

"G" Company.

No. 4914, Pte. J. Kerr. | No. 4596, Pte. C. Ryans.
" 4654, " C. Bennet. | " 5269, " J. Skene.

"H" Company.

No. 4761, Pte. A. Bowe. | No. 4380, Pte. T. Cameron
" 4698, " J. McIntyre. | " 5051, " D. Donaldson.

No. 4784, Private W. Strachan.

To complete twelve years' service with the colours on receiving a bounty of Rs. 150, with furlough for not less than two months in England under the provisions of G. O. C. C. 716 of 1901.—No 5291, Lance-Corporal R. Tawse, "D" Company.

TRANSFERS.

To Bengal Unattached List for employment as Sergeant Instructor in the Agra Volunteer Corps from 29th August 1901.—No. 3146, Sergeant C. Clarke.

To Bengal Unattached List as Sergeant in the Supply and Transport Corps from 23rd December 1899.— No. 5501, Corporal J. Houston.

Inter-Company.

No. 4058, Corporal J. Buchanan, "B" to "F" Company.
" 5587, Private W. Johnstone, "E" to "D" "
" 5163, " J. Allan "F" to "D" "

CHANGE OF NAME.

No. 5139, Private J. Hendry is permitted to assume the name of John Craigen.

SERVICE RESTORED.

In accordance with para. 1842, K. R.

No. 5981, Private T. McNair, "F" Company.

—: o :—

Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

BIRTH.

At Ranikhet, on the 16th October 1901, the wife of Sergeant Instructor A. Jeffrey, Cawnpore Volunteer Rifles, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

MARKS—WILLIS—At the Afghan Memorial Church, Colaba, on the 5th October 1901, by the Rev. W. S. Hall, Chaplain of Colaba, Frederick Charles Marks, Sergeant, 93rd Highlanders, to Sarah, daughter of Mr. C. Willis, Cuthbert Street, Paddington, London.

SWAN—BOYCE.—At St. Peter's Church, Ranikhet, on the 9th October 1901, by the Rev. C. Darling, Chaplain of Ranikhet, Thomas Alexander Swan, Color-Sergeant, 93rd Highlanders, to Annie Winifred, only daughter of the late William Henry Boyce, Foxlydiate, Redditch, Worcestershire.

DEATHS.

MITCHELL.—At Stirling, on the 16th July 1901, Charles, the son of Color-Sergeant R. Mitchell, aged 2 years and 2 months.

MCFARLANE.—At the Station Hospital, Ranikhet, on the 7th October 1901, No. 4835, Private M. McFarlane, "B" Company.

LIVINGSTONE.—At the Station Hospital, Ranikhet, on the 8th October 1901, No. 6351, Private J. Livingstone, "H" Company.

MCNEIL.—At the Station Hospital, Bareilly, on the 22nd October 1901, No. 4925, Private J. McNeil, "G" Company.

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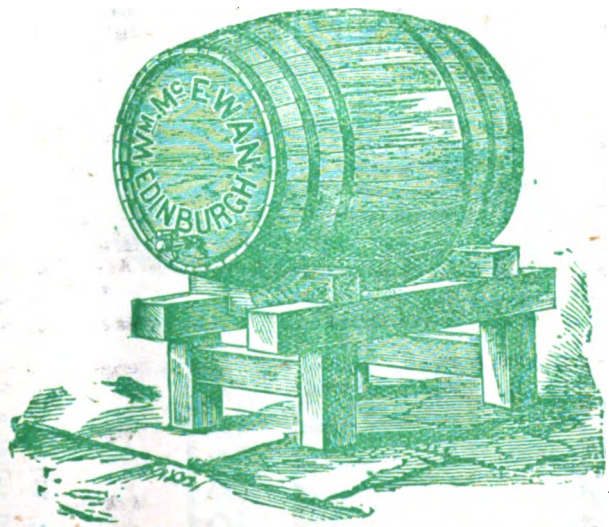

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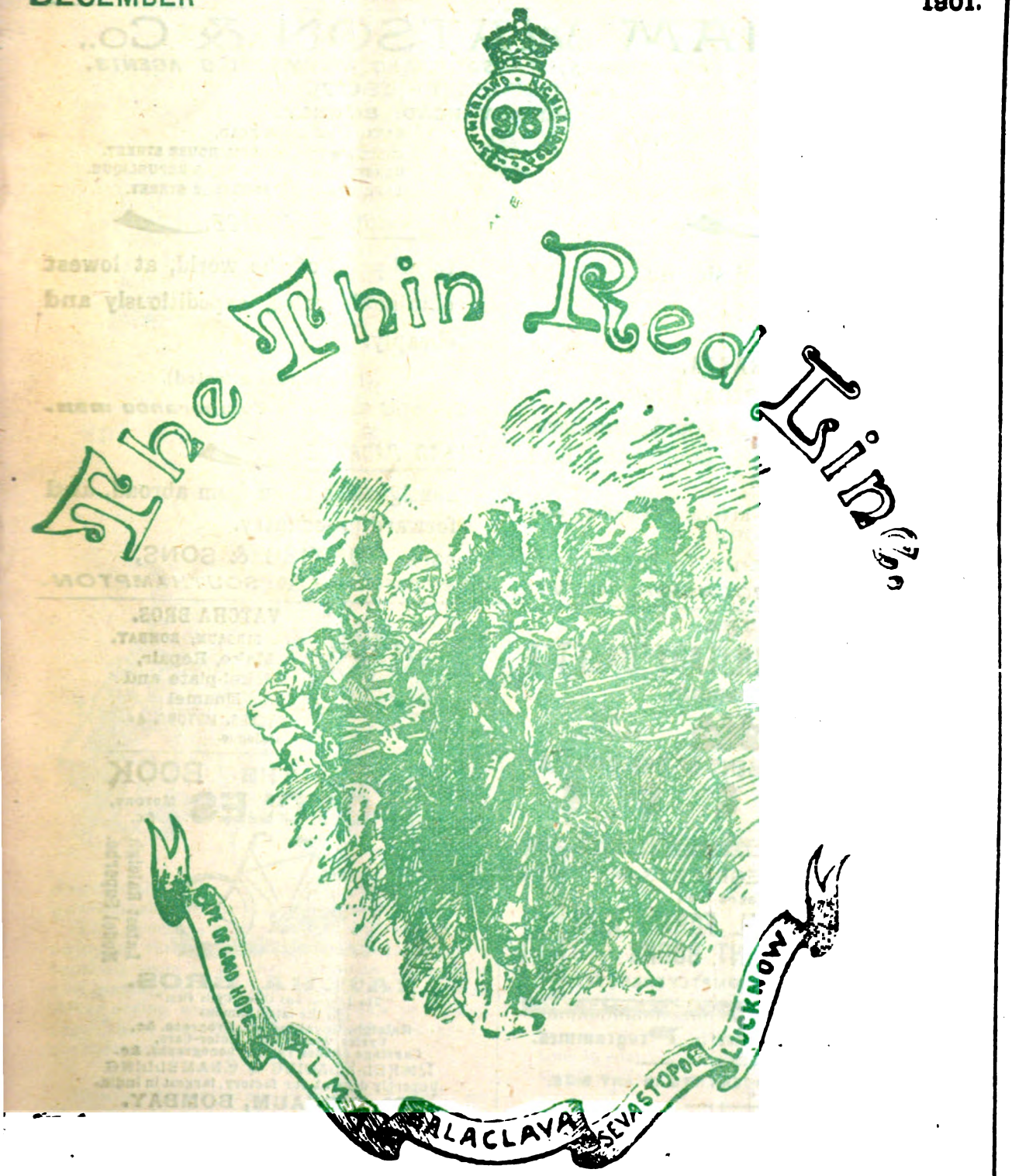

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Vol. VI,
THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. Princess Louise's Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 8—Vol. VII. SHAHJAHANPUR—DECEMBER 1901. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE mild state of excitement, which we were thrown into on the first arrival of the Boers, has worn off now, and the battalion has settled down to the multifarious duties pertaining to the guardianship of a thousand prisoners of war.

The Boers themselves appear to be settled and enjoying themselves pretty well. Cricket and football seem to be their favourite recreations and psalm-singing their principal occupation. After seeing some of our companies practising tug-o'-war, the Boers have adopted it as an amusement also.

* * * *

Route-marching takes place once a week, on Mondays, to give our friends the Boers a chance of stretching their legs and seeing the beauties of Shahjahanpur. We cannot compliment the Boers on their marching powers if the slow pace we are now being accustomed to is their usual rate of progression. The marches are very short, four or five miles only, at the very outside, yet many of them are unable to totter along that distance even, and the bullock tongas are, as a rule, full by the time we return to camp. Of course there are many old men amongst them, some of whom have quite a venerable appearance, and the slowness of the pace is no doubt due to them.

* * * *

The "Thin Yin" is particularly unfortunate in losing the services of two valued members of its staff during the past month. Bandsman E. Miller, a most consistent contributor to our sporting columns, has proceeded home on completion of thirteen years' service, ten of which have been spent abroad. The *Thin Yin* sincerely regrets his departure, and wishes him the best of luck on his return to civil life, or wherever he may go.

Private C. B. Painter, whose contributions have so often enlivened the pages of this paper, has left the battalion to take up an appointment on the Staff of the Quarter Master General's Department at Simla, but we trust that his support is not altogether lost, and that he will find time to contribute a few pages now and again to the *Thin Red Line*.

* * * * *

The great surprise of the month has been the news of our next shift—Calcutta, or to be more accurate, Fort William. Who would have thought it! Not a whisper of our destination had ever reached us, and almost every station in India had been spoken of, or rather guessed, as our next "shift." Opinions differ as to the particular merits of Calcutta as a station, but as we

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know very little about the place we will not enter into them here. No date has yet been fixed for our departure.

It will not be the Ninety-third's first appearance in the capital of the Indian Empire, however. On the 20th September, 1857, the regiment, or the major part of it, disembarked opposite Fort William, and were visited by the then Commander-in-Chief, Sir Colin Campbell, prior to their being despatched up country to take part in the stirring events of the Mutiny, in the history of which they were destined to play such an important part.

* * * * *

The account, promised in our last issue of the Boer Camp and its occupants, not being forthcoming, we have secured from one of the Boer officers a narrative of his experiences as a prisoner of war, which will, no doubt, be read with more than ordinary interest. His story will be found in another part of the paper.

* * * * *

Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean has been appointed Acting Adjutant of the 4th (Stirlingshire) V. B. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, in succession to Captain H. L. Henderson, whose tenure of office expired on 9th November last. Lieutenant Maclean, we believe, takes the rank of Captain in December, when he will have completed six years' service in the Army.

* * * * *

The trooping season this year has deprived the battalion of a few "weel ken't" faces, amongst the number being Armourer Sergeant Holden, who has been transferred to the Home Establishment of his corps, and Sergeant Miller, Lance-Sergeant Moat and Drummer McLachlan, transferred to the Depôt at Stirling. Color-Sergeant Hay has also left us, an appointment as Sergeant Instructor to a Volunteer Corps being responsible for his removal. "Geordie" will be a sad loss to the shooting team. Color-Sergeant Bates is another old member of the Sergeants' Mess, who will be much missed, an appointment on the Volunteers taking him away also. Color-Sergeant Soutar, Sergeant Johnstone and a few "bounty" men have also left for home, on winter furlough. We wish them all "Bon Voyage."

* * * * *

The King's Birthday was celebrated on Saturday, 9th November, the battalion forming up in eight Companies on the *maidan* in front of the Guard-room and firing a *feu-de-joie*. After this three hearty cheers were given for His Majesty, and the parade concluded by a march past in column. The spectacle was witnessed by a large number of the Boer prisoners who crowded up against the barbed wire fence between the gate and the Main-guard, where a good view was to be had.

* * * * *

Captain Hyslop was lucky enough to be selected for active service with the First Battalion, and left for South Africa about the middle of November. To use a hackneyed expression, what is our loss is the Ninety-first's gain, and, though sorry to lose him from this Battalion, we hope that it will be for his benefit, and that he will find means of rejoining us when the war is over.

* * * * *

Lieutenant and Quarter-Master Lundie is to be congratulated upon his promotion from Sergeant-Major of the battalion. Lieutenant Lundie is a son of the rock, and enlisted at Stirling in April, 1884. He is a Ninety-third's man, having served all his time with this battalion, except a few years spent in the Depôt at Stirling before the regiment came to India.

We also congratulate Lieutenant Douglas, King's Own Scottish Borderers, and Lieutenant Hutcheson, Connaught Rangers, attached to the battalion, on securing their star.

* * * * *

Corporal Hiscock has returned to the bosom of the battalion after spending about twelve months in the land of pig-tails and Chinese lanterns. What impressions he has formed of the Chinese, and the allied forces serving in their country, we do not know, but we hope that he will deem them worthy of reproduction in the pages of the "Thin Red Line."

* * * * *

We should like to remind those members of the battalion who are proceeding home time-expired or for various other reasons that they cannot do better than entrust their surplus kit to Messrs. William Watson and Co., the Bankers and Agents at Bombay, who are the sole Agents for Messrs. Curtis and Co., of Portsmouth and Southampton, the well-known troopship agents. Men who have curious and Indian valuables to send home to their relatives and friends will find that Messrs. Watson and Co's. system of transit enables them to send their boxes home in the shortest time and at the cheapest possible rates. The large business done with the troops in this country and the many testimonials they hold are a sufficient guarantee of the general satisfaction they afford.

* * * * *

Lieutenant O. C. Herbert has passed the Lower Standard Examination in Urdu.

* * * * *

2nd Lieutenants H. J. Adams, T. A. A. Wilson, and R. Foster, Unattached List, have

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joined the battalion, and been attached to "A," "C" and "F" Companies, respectively, for the usual twelve months' probation prior to their being posted to a native corps.

* * * * *

Major Aitken left for home on 1st November on twelve months' leave, and Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean on the same date on six months' leave. We wish them both a good voyage and a pleasant holiday in the old country.

* * * * *

School Master Burnard has been attached to the battalion for duty, and on arrival took over charge of the Regimental Schools.

* * * * *

The *Border Magazine* for November contains an article on the life of Sir John Alexander Ewart, K. C. B., Colonel of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. An excellent portrait of our veteran Colonel is presented as a supplement. The above article, which is by John Mackay, Editor of the *Celtic Monthly*" appeared in the pages of the *Thin Red Line* for December 1895.

* * * * *

His Majesty the King held an Investiture at St. James' Palace, London, on October 29th, at which Major General Sir Alfred Gaselee, K. C. B., was invested with the Insignia of the Order of the Indian Empire (G. C. I. E.), into which he has been admitted.

* * * * *

Captain and Adjutant J. Campbell has qualified for the rank of Major—Distinguished in Military Topography and Organisation and Equipment, Special mention, G. O. C. C. 822 of 1901.

* * * * *

An excellent account, from the *Scotsman*, of the recent "presentation of war medals" by His Majesty the King to men of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, at Balmoral, will be found on another page.

* * * * *

The total number of men who have availed themselves of the bounty to men extending their services for twelve years with the colours is 224, of whom 201 have elected to accept bounty with gratuity in lieu of furlough, and 23 with bounty and furlough. The offer is now closed.

* * * * *

From Major Middleton we have received the account of the celebration of Balaclava Day in Scotland which appears in another part of the paper. We are also indebted to him for the following cutting from the *Glasgow Evening News*:—

It is rather a striking circumstance that Saturday's *Evening News*, which contained the announcement calling the sixteenth annual dinner of the members of the old 93rd Regimental Association—now the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders—should also publish a fitting reference to the rather sudden death of Sergeant-Major James Smith, who started his army life in the ranks of the 93rd Highlanders. "Forage Cap" can speak of the deceased soldier as a personal friend as well as a well-tried comrade. He was a splendid "drill," a first-class instructor, and a thoroughly capable Sergeant Major. His nature, with duty on hand, was of a real "go-ahead" character; he knew the limit of his own authority; but, given an object to attain, he had the power to throw life and courage into the hearts of his comrades, and thus it was that difficulties disappeared and tasks that seemed heavy became light and easy. He was the pioneer of the present regimental association system, which was started in connection with his own old corps. His love for the officers and men of the 93rd Highlanders was planted in his heart at a very early age, and it grew with his manhood. His jealous regard for his colonel and comrades of the 4th V. B. Scottish Rifles could be seen in the various situations of his Volunteer life. We have known him and worked with him both in camp and in quarters; but we venture to think that his happiest duty was found in the Trades' Hall, Glassford Street, on Balaclava Day. In the early days of the association, whose welfare he had so much at heart, he called the roll, and our deceased comrade took great delight not only at the presence of 93rd men who had served in the Crimea and the Mutiny, but also at the presence and patronage of such officers as Sir John Ewart, Nightingale, Trotter, Hannay, Campbell, Middleton, M'Rae, and many others.

Now our dear comrade has fallen asleep. He will call the roll no more. At the early age of 53 he has left the scene of his duty, his widow and his children to mourn, and his many comrades to lament his somewhat sudden death. To-morrow afternoon his remains will be conveyed to their last resting-place in the Necropolis. Representatives of the 91st, 93rd, and 4th V. B. Scottish Rifles will attend the funeral. Comrades and friends who intend being present will meet in 4th Lanark Drill Hall at 2-30. The hall is quite close to the home of the deceased, and it will just suit the purpose.

FORAGE CAP.

* * * * *

Another veteran of the Crimea and Mutiny campaigns has gone to his last long rest. From the *Broad Arrow*:—

Color-Sergeant Richard Mackie, formerly of the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, died at 4 Merkland Road, Aberdeen, on the 6th October. The deceased joined the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders in 1845, and served with them through the Crimean and Indian Mutiny campaigns. He afterwards saw service on the North-West Frontier of India in 1863, and took his discharge in 1866, on a pension, on the completion of 21 years with the colours. On leaving the regular army, Color-Sergeant Mackie was appointed Instructor of Volunteers at Duris, and was subsequently transferred to the Royal Aberdeenshire Highlanders, now the 3rd Bn., Gordon Highlanders, as Musketry Instructor. He afterwards served as Officers' Mess Sergeant, which post he had until 1890. Color-Sergeant Mackie was in possession of the Crimean and Turkish medals, Indian Mutiny medal, with two clasps for the relief and capture of Lucknow; the medal for the North-West Frontier Campaign, 1863, with clasp, and the good conduct medal.

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A Prisoner of War.

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PRISONERS OF WAR CAMP,
SHAHJAHANPUR.
November 1901.

SIR,

No doubt many of your readers will be interested to hear how some of us were captured and deported. I will endeavour to give you a faint outline of my case. I was stationed in the Heidelburg district of the Transvaal, and when I say stationed I mean that I had orders from my Government to remain, *if possible*, in the said district. However, it seldom happened that I could remain longer in the district than a fortnight or so, being always chased away by the enemy—a very unpleasant situation when one wants to be comfortably settled. However, to return to the events that led to my capture. On the 30th August, I had just established my office in pleasant quarters, on a farm, when a report came in that no fewer than two columns were advancing on me, one from the direction of the east and the other from the west. I knew I would soon be surrounded if I did not make good my escape before they commenced their usual flanking movements, so I at once issued the order to "saddle up," and "inspan" and no time was lost in getting away. Knowing every inch of the ground so well it was quite an easy matter for us to get away from our enemies. Naturally I took a direction which I thought the enemy would not follow. We travelled for twenty-four miles and then stopped for the night and thought ourselves very lucky to have accomplished such another jolly good escape. At the place where we halted was a small laager (convoy) of ours. Fires were lit and food prepared, our fare consisting of mealie porridge and roast beef, which we did ample justice to. Our appetites appeased, we laid down to sleep. At 2 A.M. I woke up and ordered the wagons to go on, to which order many responded, while some remained, thinking, as I did myself, that we were quite safe. At daybreak I sent out two scouts, who had not gone far when they came galloping back as fast as they could, and shouted—"There are the English." Imagine what a sorry plight we now found ourselves in. Every body naturally rushed off at once to try and make their escape, some being mounted and others trying it on foot. It was too late, however, bullets were flying in every direction and our efforts proved fruitless. "Tommy," as we soon perceived, having the best of it. Two of our men were badly wounded in attempting to escape, and only one man succeeded in escaping unhurt. He belonged to my staff. I, anyhow, would not throw up the sponge, and endeavoured to make another attempt to get away. I jumped on my cape cart, drawn by two mules, and beat them up as fast as I could, but I soon saw that I was quite surrounded, and was just in the act of picking up my gun, to make a last stand and fight till death, when Major Ferrar called out from behind me, at a distance of six or eight yards, "hands up." I looked round and saw that it was all over with me, being covered with a revolver, while I was too late for him with my gun. I dropped my gun and put up my hands. I then realised that I was a prisoner, a thing I dreaded more than death. I will now close for the present, but under the promise to continue my story in a few days.

Yours truly,
PRISONER OF WAR.

23*rd November* 1901.

SIR,

In my first letter you found me in the hands of the enemy. By my captor I was ordered, under escort of two mounted men of course, to turn back, and I soon found myself along with the remainder of our men who were captured. On our way back one of my escort shouted to me "drive on quick, you—, I have been two years after you, and will stand no nonsense from you," to which I retorted "your own words imply that I am a man, and, let me tell you, if I had but the chance you would suffer for your words." "Shut up and drive on" was his answer, and I concluded that to "shut up" and keep my peace would be best for me, as, being naturally of a hot-tempered disposition, I might get myself into serious trouble if I did not. Arrived at the place of assembly I found eleven of our men there besides myself. Two more were under the doctor's care, wounded. I enquired from the sentry over us whose column it was, and he told me Colonel Benson, adding, "you speak English, do you?" To this I made no reply, but gave him a sour look. "Here, Johnny, have you any Kruger money on you?" he said, to which I made no answer. "Come, Johnny," he said again, "you speak English, ask them if they have any Kruger money." After giving him another scornful look, I turned my back on him and did not reply. A few minutes later I heard a voice saying, "Any of you speak English here?" I knew that it must be some one in authority this time, but kept quiet. Imagine how angry I felt when the guard pointed to me and said, "Yes, sir, that one there speaks English." "Do you speak English?" the officer said. "A little," said I. The following conversation then took place. "When did you get here?" "Last night." "Did you expect us here this morning?" "Not by yourselves." "What do you mean?" "If you were not led here either by a native or a mean, low traitorous burgher, it would be impossible for you to be where you are."

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"Is that what you believe?" "It is what I know." "Who is the Landdrost?" "I am." "Oh I! warn you not to touch a paper in your cape cart then." "It is not necessary, there are no documents of any importance amongst my papers." He turned to go then, but I stopped him to ask permission to get my blankets from the cart, to which he assented. Before I could go the officer suddenly turned round and asked me some more questions. "How many burghers were here last night?" "Some seventy or eighty," I replied. "Where are they gone to?" "That you must please find out yourself." "When did they leave here?" "Since 2 A.M. this morning." "In which direction?" "In every direction." "Where is General Botha?" "If I knew I would not tell you." "Why not?" "I will never be a traitor." "Then you will not tell me either, I suppose, where your Government is?" "No sir, I will give you no information of any description, so it is useless wasting time on such matters." "Sentry, go with this man for his blankets," said the officer as he turned finally to go, "but mind he takes no paper from the cart." "Here, Johnny, come with me," said the sentry. I went with him, but found that my blankets and almost every thing else was gone, and had to return empty-handed, a nasty outlook for the cold nights. The outposts were recalled and we got ready to move. A guard was told off to march us along. They were men in kilts and quite a kind set of fellows, non-commissioned officers included. On the march a Captain joined the party and enquired for the Landdrost. On being informed that I was that individual, he came and walked alongside of me. He was very kind, and offered me a whiskey which I did not refuse. As it was about eighteen months since I had drank anything of that description, the whiskey made me a bit talkative, and the Captain and I became good friends. He asked me if there was any Kruger money amongst the prisoners, and on telling him there were a few coins, he requested me to keep them for him until night time, which I did. After marching for eighteen miles we met the convoy. My comrades and myself were, by that time, very tired of the long journey, not being accustomed to walking much, we were bad walkers. We were also very hungry, having tasted nothing all day. About 4 P.M. food was brought to us consisting of biscuits and a sort of soup, and some beef, but there was not sufficient to satisfy our hunger. Now that we were halted the "Tommies" would not give us a minute's rest with their everlasting enquiries for Kruger coins and other curios. I verily believe that there was not a man in the whole column who did not try to talk to us. Some wanted to question while others gave us their mind "in tall talk." I could endure this sort of thing no longer, and asked to see Captain Patten. On complaining to him he at once gave orders not to allow anyone but officers to speak to us. I must not forget to mention that I was told by everyone who spoke to me that I was very lucky to be captured before the 15th September. I naturally held a different opinion. In the evening a canvas sail was given to us to shelter us for the night. So ended the 31st August—a day I will never forget.

PRISONER OF WAR.

The Subaltern.

—o—

When I went to the war as a very young man
(Said I to myself, said I),
I'll work on a new and original plan
(Said I to mayslf, said I).
I'll never assume that an oath-breaking Boer
Is a person whose deeds it were wrong to deplore,
Or accept his bare word that he'll "do it no more"
(Said I to myself, said I).

I'll never throw dust in the great B. P.'s eyes
(Said I to myself, said I).
Nor alter a cable to something near lies
(Said I to myself, said I).
My noble profession I'll never disgrace
By publicly stating "They're cleared from this place,"
To find the next day that they've made it their base
(Said I to myself, said I).

Ere I go on patrol I will think what to do
(Said I to myself, said I),
And I'll never forget that the Boers can think too
(Said I to myself, said I).
Nor assume that each khaki-clad man on a horse
Who signals politely "Pray do not use force"
Is a trustworthy friend as a matter of course
(Said I to myself, said I).

In most undertakings which make up life's race
(Said I to myself, said I),
An absence of brains or of sense kills the pace
(Said I to myself, said I).
Professional nonsense, when carried too far
Your chance of promotion will certainly mar,
And I fancy the rule might apply to the war
(Said I to myself, said I).
(N. B.—But it doesn't seem to).

—G. G. P., in the *Outlook*.

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His Majesty Presents War Medals to his Bodyguard.

—o—

THOUGH Colonel-in-Chief of the Gordons, and proud of the fact, it is quite apparent that the King appreciates too highly the name and fame of his other Highland regiments to reserve all the honour for one corps, so yesterday, at Balmoral, with that happy tact and graciousness which have ever distinguished him, His Majesty took occasion to honour his bodyguard of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who have been in attendance at Ballater during his present visit, by presenting to twenty-six of their number war medals for service in South Africa. It is not in Scotland only that the name of the 93rd will ever be heard with feelings of pride recalling memories of many deeds of daring. They have fought in many lands, gaining distinction in all, but thanks to the aid of classic art, their claim to undying glory will for ever be associated in the public mind with the "Thin Red Line" of kilted heroes who repulsed the Russian cavalry and saved a desperate situation at Balaclava. The men now forming the guard of honour at Ballater are the successors of that heroic band, for the old 93rd are now, under the territorial system, the 2nd battalion, while the 91st are the 1st battalion, and both now combine to form the Princess Louise's Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. His Majesty's sister, the accomplished Duchess of Argyll, has given the distinction of her name to the regiment, and Her Royal Highness has taken a deep interest in its welfare. The badge of the regiment, which is practically the Princess's design, is a happy combination of the heraldic emblems and mottoes of the two houses of Argyll and Sutherland, the crest therefore being a boar's head and a rampant cat. It is recalled also that the guard of honour that accompanied Queen Victoria on her first visit to Balmoral was chosen from the 93rd. Though then only in his ninth year the Prince of Wales was not likely to forget so picturesque a scene, and it was a peculiarly happy thought, therefore, that led to the selection for his own first guard of honour after his accession of representatives of the same regiment. It is on record that Queen Victoria, with characteristic kindness, took a personal interest in the welfare of the men, and the parallel was completed by the hospitality which King Edward extended to the soldiers whom he so highly honoured at his Highland residence yesterday.

The invitation to Balmoral included the whole detachment, and this high mark of honour gave much satisfaction to the inhabitants of the little burgh of Ballater, among whom they have been stationed for the past three weeks. The natives are loud in their praise of the excellent conduct of the men during their stay, and their departure for Balmoral proved quite an event. Starting from Ballater Barracks about 11-30, the detachment, which consisted of 57 non-commissioned officers and men, drove in a couple of brakes, and were under the command of Major Mackenzie and Lieutenants Couper and Lord George Dundas. Arrived at the gateway of Balmoral, the men left the vehicles, and, forming fours, marched along the main avenue, their pipers playing in succession—"The Cock of the North" and "The Campbells are Coming." It was now about one o'clock, and by this time the heavy mists that had clung to the hills all morning had almost entirely cleared away, and the whole prospect within the Royal demesne looked its best. The presence of the soldiery made a pretty spectacle. A fine, well set-up body of men they were, in full dress review order, and merited the Royal compliment of being a very smart guard of honour.

Drawn up in two lines on the broad gravel walk a little to the east of the main entrance to the Castle, they appeared to advantage against the beautiful background formed by the tinted foliage of the trees. A short distance in front of the first line stood Major Mackenzie on the right and Lord George Dundas on the left, with Lieutenant Couper in the centre carrying the colours. All being now in readiness for them, the Royal party issued from the Castle and took up their position at a Sutherland tartan covered table, which stood on a carpet laid on the walk. Their appearance was the signal for the Royal salute, a feature of which was the playing by Piper Brown of the tune "St. Andrew's Cross." With the King were the Queen, the Princess Victoria, and the three children of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York.

The members of the Household present were the Hon. Mrs. Harding, the Hon. Charlotte Knollys, Sir Dighton Probyn, Sir Francis Knollys, Hon. H. Stonor, Captain H. Seymour Fortescue (who wore his naval uniform), Lieutenant-Colonel Davidson, and Major Frederick. The guests were:—Sir Edwin Egerton, His Majesty's Ambassador at Athens; the Hon. Schomberg MacDonnell; Colonel Trotter, Commanding the 91st Regimental District; and Colonel Innes of Learney.

Major Mackenzie having put the men through several evolutions, those who were to receive the medals piled arms and stood in front of the line. Then coming up to the table, the Major read their names, each stepping briskly forward as he was called, and received the coveted badge from his Sovereign's hand, and saluting, returned to his place.

The medals all distributed, the recipients reformed into line, whereupon the King, whose voice reached to the extreme limits of the circle of spectators, said:—

Major Mackenzie, I am very glad to have this opportunity of presenting the South African War medal to those men of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders who have returned from the war. I have heard that amongst them have been both wounded and sick, and I am glad to see them looking so well on parade. I congratulate you on commanding so very smart a guard of honour. I know full well the history of your distinguished regiment, and I have little doubt that the good name you have borne, both at home and abroad, will be maintained by you as long as the regiment exists. As this is the first guard of honour which has been furnished to me in Scotland since my accession, I present you, Major Mackenzie, with the fourth class Victorian Order.

At the request of the King, Major Mackenzie then asked Sergeant-Major Lindsay to step to the front, and that non-commissioned officer having done so, the King addressing him said:—

I confer upon you the silver medal of the same Order.

Major Alexander Francis Mackenzie, who has thus been honoured, joined the regiment as Second Lieutenant in 1881. He served in the campaign on the North-West Frontier of India under Sir W. Lockhart in 1897-98, with the Tochi field force, for which he received the medal with clasp. Sergeant-Major Lindsay, who received the silver medal, is a native of Forfarshire, and has been in the regiment for twenty-three years. Thirteen of these he has spent abroad, having served in Ceylon and Hong-Kong, and taken part in the African campaign of 1878 for which he holds a medal.

With the Royal salute the ceremony, which had occupied about ten minutes, then terminated. The officers lunched with the King in the Castle, and the men were served with dinner in the servants' hall. Two toasts were pledged—the healths of the King and of the Queen.

From The Scotsman.

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New Year Customs.

—o—

The following account of some of our New Year customs, selected from various sources, will no doubt be interesting at this season, showing, as it does, how the New Year was kept in Scotland in the brave old days, and in some ways is still kept—

Scotland, at the Reformation, being much imbued with Puritan reform, discarded the observances of Christmas and carried out those of the New Year. The best known and most general custom is that of sitting up till twelve o'clock on the night of December 31st, and then, when the eventful hour is struck, proceeding to the door, unbarring it with great formality to let out the Old Year and let in the New Year. This also is a favourite occasion for social gatherings in Scotland, and "first footing" or the practice of being the first person to put his foot over the threshold, is indulged in, the greatest desideratum being that he must not go empty-handed, but must carry cake, wine, fruit, or some other edible with him. To go without is considered most unlucky. A dark man is more favoured than a fair complexioned one, so that a man of that complexion, if he has a fine figure and is not afflicted with a squint, or flat foot, or some other infirmity, is in great requisition. This custom and that of sending presents at the New Year is an Ancient Saxon one.

Many superstitions are connected with New Year's Eve, as it was believed all witches and warlocks assembled in force at this season, when the Sun God, whose power had been gradually waning since August, succumbed to his enemies, the powers of Darkness and Winter. It was their hour of triumph after an interval of subjection, and the popular mind pictured them stalking abroad with more than ordinary insolence and aggressiveness. Salt was considered a protection against fairies, etc., and on this night it was a custom to fill a thimble with salt and upset it on a plate, one thimble from every one in the house. If any of the heaps had fallen or looked untidy next morning then the person it represented would die within the year.

In the Isle of Man the first day of winter or the New Year was held on November 12, and was called Hog-annaa. In Scotland the last day of the year is Hog-manaye. In Normandy the poor, on the last day of the year, when demanding alms, say "Hoguinauno," showing the connection between the different localities where British is spoken. The word is probably of Scandinavian origin. Hangamaney meaning mound-men, even the fairies being considered as dwellers in mounds.

On New Year's Eve the wassail bowl of spiced ale was carried from house to house by the village maidens, who sang songs and wished every one a happy New Year. Wassail is an old Saxon word meaning, "Be in health." The custom of the wassail bowl at the passing away of the old year is thus described in Chambers' Book of Days. On the approach of twelve o'clock a hot pint was prepared, that is, a kettle or flagon full of warm, spiced and sweetened ale, with an infusion of spirits. When the clock had struck the knell of the departed year each member of the family drank in this mixture "A good health and a happy New Year and many of them" to all the rest, with a general hand-shaking and perhaps a dance round the table, with the addition of a song to the tune of *Hey tuttie taitie* :—

'Weel may we a' be,
Ill may we never see,
Here's to the King
And the good companie,
&c.

The elders of the family would then sally out with the hot kettle, and bearing also a competent provision of buns and shortbread or bread and cheese, with the design of visiting their neighbours and interchanging with them the same cordial greetings. If they met by the way another party similarly bent whom they knew, they would stop and give and take sips from their respective kettles. Reaching the friends' house they would enter with vociferous good wishes, and soon send the kettle circulating. If they were first to enter the house since twelve o'clock they were deemed as the *first foot*, and as such it was most important for luck to the family in the coming year that they should not make their entry empty-handed, but with their hands full of cakes and bread and cheese.

An unlucky circumstance which took place in Edinburgh on the 1st of January, 1812, proved the means of nearly extinguishing the custom. A small party of reckless boys formed the design of turning the innocent festivities of *first-footing* to account for purposes of plunder. They kept their counsel well. No sooner had the people come abroad on the principal thoroughfares of the Old Town than these youths sallied out in small bands and commenced the business which they had undertaken. Their previous agreement was to *look out for white neckcloths*—such being the best mark by which they could distinguish in the dark individuals likely to carry any property worthy of being taken. A great number of gentlemen were thus spoiled of their watches and other valuables. The least resistance was resented by the most brutal maltreatment. A policeman and a young man of the rank of

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a clerk in Leith died of the injuries they had received. An affair so singular, so uncharacteristic of the people among whom it happened, produced a widespread and lasting feeling of surprise. The outrage was expatiated by the execution of three of the youthful rioters on the chief scene of their wickedness; but from that time it was observed that the old custom of going about with the *hot-pot*—the ancient wassail—fell off.

In all the observances of our Scottish New Year, we may remark on the feelings of kindness and good will which are displayed by all classes of society towards each other, at this time. Old friendships are renewed and differences are forgotten, and a universal spirit of charity and forgiveness is evoked. On this day the traditional gravity of the Scot is relaxed; every face gleams with pleasure and every hand is ready with the grasp of friendship. Though some of the old practices are falling into disuse, still we feel sure, it will be a long time yet before "Ne'erday" ceases to be the premier day of festivity and enjoyment of our native Scotland.

THE LOT OF THE GERMAN SOLDIER.

"The pay of a common soldier is 4½d. a day, but out of this he must pay 1½d. for his dinner. The only free rations given out are a loaf of black bread with coffee or soup, so that it will be seen that most of the German soldier's pay has to go in buying food.

"One might think that the men would be at least allowed to spend their princely wage as they like; but the authorities have decreed otherwise, and from time to time the soldiers are ordered to produce the bag in which they keep their money; and if it be found that any man has been extravagant and has been squandering his pay on riotous living, he is punished.

"In Britain we treat children of tender years thus, but in Germany it seems to be necessary, or at any rate, to be considered necessary, to look after grown men in the same way.

"And everywhere the men are hemmed in by endless rules and regulations, many of which seem almost farcical to us. But in Germany they are taken seriously; and it is just as well for the men that they are; for the least transgression of any of the ordinances is attended with certain punishment. Most, if not all, of these ordinances, of course, serve some definite purpose which is generally apparent, but not always important.

"There is a regulation, for instance, providing that every man must wear an apron at his meals. The obvious reason for this is to prevent him from soiling his uniforms. Cleanliness and neatness are insisted upon to such a degree that they have become a perfect mania with the authorities. A long and comprehensive list of regulations provides against any breach of these items of discipline, and woe betide the soldier who offends in the slightest particular.

"No matter how early in the morning the command 'Aufstehen' (get up) goes forth—and it is not in frequently at three or four o'clock—the men must be scrupulously neat when they emerge from their dormitories. The German soldier must not go on duty unshaven, so the men often act as barbers to one another."—By Sydney Williams, in the "Royal Magazine."

Programme.

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INTERNATIONAL

SMOKING CONCERT:
Given by the
WARRANT OFFICERS, STAFF SERGEANTS AND SERGEANTS,
of the
BRITISH CONTINGENT, CHINA FIELD FORCE,
to
their Comrades of the
ALLIED FORCES,
in the
GORDON HALL, TIENTSIN,
on
Monday, September 30th, 1901.

PART I.

1.—OVERTURE		*Band of the Hongkong Regiment.*
2.—SONG	"In Old Madrid,"	*Staff Sergt. Edwards, British Cont.*
3.—SONG	"Der student von Julius Stolenberg,"	*Sergt. Fisher, German Cont.*
4.—DUETT	"Still ruht der See,"	*Quarter-Masters Krutak & Andres, Austrian Cont.*
5.—SWORD DANCE.	"Nippon To"	*Sergt. Nakahara, Japanese Cont.*
6.—VIOLIN SOLO.	"Serenata" (Braga)	*Sergt. Jaffrai, French Cont.*
7.—SONG	"Funiculi, Funicula"	*Sergt. Anderson, Italian Cont.*

Interval.

(During the interval the band of the Hongkong Regiment will play a selection of National airs),

PART II.

8.—SONG WITH BANJO ACCOMPANIMENT.	"The London Policeman"	*Sergt. Dodd, British Cont.*
9.—SONG	"Schirm"	*Sergt. Gilding, German Cont.*
10.—SONG	"Wiener Ehegluck,"	*Quarter-Master Krutak, Austrian Cont.*
11.—SONG	"The song of the Bersaglieri in the Camp."	*Italian Cont.*
12.—SONG	"Mignon" (Thomas)	*Sergt. Galy, French Cont.*
13.—DUETT	Clarinet and Saxophone, "Echigo Jishi."	*Sergts. Matsunam and Matsumatoi, Japanese Cont.*
14.—SONG	"Ah! so pure" (Martha).	*Sergt. Burrough, British Cont.*

National Anthems.

"I've forgotten the countersign," sez 'e.
"Oh! you 'ave, 'ave you?" sez I.
"But I'm the Colonel," sez 'e.
"Oh, you are, are you?" sez I. "Colonel or no Colonel, you waits 'ere till I'm relieved, an' the Sargint reports on your ugly old mug. Choop!" sez I.
An', s'elp me soul, 'twas the Colonel after all! But I was a recruity then.

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Ninety-Third Highlanders' Association.

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BALACLAVA CELEBRATIONS.

The annual (16th) gathering of the Ninety-Third Association was held in the Trades' Hall, Glassford Street, Glasgow, on Friday, 25th October (Balaclava Day). The following officers were present, *viz* :—Major-General Sir A. Gaselee, G.C.I.E., K.C.B.; Colonel P. D. Trotter, Commanding, 91st Regimental District; Major S. Macdougall of Lunga; Major A. F. Mackenzie, M.V.O.; Major A. H. Middleton, Honorary President, 93rd Association; Captain C. Bell, Captain A. McRae; Lieutenant J. Campbell of Kilberry, Lieutenant R. J. P. Cox. Apologies for absence were received from Lieutenant-General Sir John Ewart, K. C. B.; Lieutenant-General F. Traill-Burroughs, C. B.; Colonel Chater, Major W. Fullarton Fullarton, Major H. S. C. Gordon, Captain R. H. Burgoyne, Captain G. L. Walker, Captain R. C. Williamson.

The following "Crimean" men were present:—McLay, Maxwell, James Stirling, Bugler Fulton, Hutton, Adam Christie, J. D. Wilson, M. Davie, and T. Shepherd.

With Mutiny and North-West Frontier medals:—165, Dan. McLachlan.

North-West Frontier, 1863:—Color-Sergeants Russel, McKinlay, Stewart, and George Martin.

From the 26th October the Association will be known as the Argyll and Sutherland Association (93rd Highlanders), as the two battalions have now amalgamated. Next year the annual gathering will be held on a date as proposed by the men of the 1st Battalion.

The following account of the celebration of Balaclava Day in Glasgow is by "Forage Cap" in the *Glasgow Evening News* :—

Balaclava Day has come and gone, and our comrades of the 93rd have commemorated that historical event in their usual fashion. The gathering in the Trades' Hall on Friday had one or two features that are worth mention. Sir A. Gaselee, G.C.I.E., K.C.B., who has only recently returned from the land of the implacable Celestial, and who commanded the British troops that relieved the Legations at Peking with the beleaguered women and children was present and responded to the toast of "Our Comrades." Himself an old 93rd man, he had some words of advice and cheer to give his old colleagues, and they in turn gave him a real "93rd" welcome. Then Colonel Trotter was in the chair, splendid type of soldier and ideal comrade with his cheery word and hearty hand shake to everyone. Added to that was quite the largest platform of officers that has been seen for years. There was one face missing though—Color-Sergeant Smith, to whom perhaps more than anyone else the Association owes its existence, who for many years carried through the duties of secretary, but has, alas! answered his last roll-call. His officers and comrades, judging by the panegyrics spoken on Friday will not readily forget him.

We were delighted to hear that the Association still goes on flourishing, and that its sphere of usefulness is to be still further extended. A step in the right direction has been taken by the amalgamation of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, and when this has been consummated a labour bureau will be opened in the city, where men who have left the service can register themselves, and employers can depend on getting men of good character. An attempt will also be made to help the aged and infirm in a thoroughly practical way. We look for even a brighter era for the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders' Association than they have had. To help those who are willing to help themselves is the motto of their Association. With men like Scott, Martin, M'Kinley, and others to carry on the work, and backed as they are by the officers who are ready and willing to do their very utmost, we are certain we will not look in vain.

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ABERDEEN COMMEMORATION OF BALACLAVA.

The members of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders' Association held their annual entertainment in commemoration of the battle of Balaclava in the Waverley Hotel, Aberdeen, on Saturday, Mr. Henry Haiter, president, in the chair. An excellent supper was provided by Mr. Smith. The chairman read a letter of apology for absence from Lieutenant-General F. Traill-Burroughs, C. B., Rousay. In conveying his best wishes that all might spend a pleasant evening, the General remarked that he supposed he was getting to be amongst the last survivors of the "Thin Red Line." He commanded No. 6 Company on that occasion, and stood next to the color party. The General remarked that he was very proud to read of the praise bestowed by the King at Balmoral lately on the old regiment. There was only one veteran present who stood in the "Thin Red Line," although most of the members had one or more medals on their breast. The chairman referred in a very feeling manner to the death during the year of two highly respected veterans, Richard Mackie and Thomas Brand. Some happy recitations were given and pleasant reminiscences recalled, and altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent. The chairman, in response to a hearty vote of thanks for his services as president, said his duties were very light, but it was a great pleasure to think they were so closely in sympathy with one another, and he thought their appearance and conduct were a credit to the old corps.—*Aberdeen Weekly Journal*.

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Poems to Order.

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It is stated on the most unreliable authority that our Poet Laureate is engaged upon a poem which is to celebrate the peregrinations of our young Prince and Princess on board the *Ophir*.

They say that he is struggling with it manfully, but the out-landish names, with which it is necessary to find rhymes, set his dictionary at defiance, and have driven the bard to the verge of distraction.

Imagine him wandering about the house, his eyes in fine frenzy rolling, a wet towel tied round his classic brow and muttering at intervals after the following style :—

"The Royal pair *(tum tum)*, Both young and fair *(that's good !)*, Have sailed away *(do de dar)*, Through Biscay's Bay, On board the good ship *Ophir*. *(That's capital ! It isn't half as difficult as I thought it would be)*. Where'er they go, Their subjects show *(rumpti rumpti)*. Their love and pride, In youthful bride—*(Er—er. That won't do exactly. Hum! Out and dried—onions fried! Bah! Pudh! Lied, ride, sighed, wide; ah! that's it, far and wide)*, From far and wide. *(And now for Ophir. No fear loafer, sofa)*. Oh, bother ! I'll leave that till later.

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"First Gibraltar—*er—er*—never alter; Then came Malta, ne'er shall falter, In their loving loyalty. *(Dar de dar).* Then fair Suez—*er—er*—true as, blue as—*(Oh, confound it!).* Through the Canal, Egypt's canal—*er—er*—climate banal *(tum tum).* Narrow channel. Don't want flannel. *(Oh great Tennyson assist me!)* Down the Red Sea, 'Gainst a head sea, Dead Sea, led free, wed me. *(Spifflicate the thing! I'll give it up directly).* Rocky Aden, where was Baden, breezes laden; Spicy Ceylon; now they sail on, someone fell on, bell on *(oh, Thunder!)*, To Colombo, where great Jumbo—*er*—Mumbo Jumbo *(oh! Torture!)*; Singapore, ever more; Australasia, euthanasia; Kangaroo, how de do? *(Oh help, help!!.)*"

Then calmly and soothingly they would place him to rest in his little straight jacket, with ice on his head and hot bricks to his feet, until he felt well enough to start afresh.—*Yellow Plume.*

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A WEEK'S REFRESHMENT.

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The following extract from the diary of a shepherd some 40 years ago will strike the reader as curious. But when it is explained that the whisky of that time was more nourishing than the liquors we at present imbible, and only half the price, it will be at once evident that the shepherd had the best of it:—

	s.	d.
MONDAY.—A half-gill to wash awa' the effects o' a dry sermon, 1½d; Mid-day.—A gill to wet ma lips for dog whistlin', being out after the sheep, 3d; Forgatherin' wi' the neebors, twa gills, 6d; Mair dog whistlin', a gill, 2d	1	1½
TUESDAY.—A wet mornin'. A gill, 3d (there being some holes in ma plaid); Dog whistlin' through the day, twa gills, 6d; Consolin' wi' Jock Mackdonald over the loss o' his wife, four gills, 1s	1	9
WEDNESDAY.—Market Day. Forgatherin's, sax gills, 1s. 6d; Dog whistlin', twa gills, 6d; Gills wi' folk I hae nae mind o' whatever, 1s; Gill wi' the man that sang "Auld Lang Syne," 3d.	3	3
THURSDAY.—A gill to try to bring to mind whaur I peeled ma knuckles in a poleetical argument, 3d; Introducing Jock Macdonald to a likely lass to mak' his second wife, twa gills, 6d; Sundry dog whistlin's, twa gills, 6d	1	3
FRIDAY.—Amang the sheep, fortifyin' mysel' for Jock Macdonald's wife's funeral in the afternoon, twa gills, 6d; Anither on the road to keep mysel' frae greetin' for the puir body, 3d; Dog whistlin', 3d; The funeral, sax gills, 1s 6d	2	6
SATURDAY.—To keep the moist oot o' ma plaid, the holes no' being mendit, a gill, 3d; Gieing in the banns for Jock Macdonald's marriage, fower gills, 1s; Dog whistlin' and forgatherin's three gills, 9d	2	0
SUNDAY.—The Sawbath Day. A wee drap to clear ma throat for cryin on ma dog, a gill, 3d. Anither at Luckie's while the bells are ringing, 3d. Some brandy so as no' to be takin' the smell o' whisky into the Lord's Hoose, 6d. A drap to digest the sermon, twa gills, 6d	1	6
Total	13	4½

ONE OF THE FIGHTING LINE.

—o—

Private Dun. Carmichael, 1st Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, contributed the following verses to the *Natal Mercury* of 27th September 1901. They also appeared in the *Oban Times* of a later date.

I was only one of the rank and file,
  One of the fighting line;
But I marched with Bobs from Paardeberg
  On the road to Bloemfontein.
And I've marched with French to Pretoria
  To the Mauser's deadly tune;
I was there when the flag was raised on high
  On the glorious fifth of June;
Ah, yes! I am proud for my corps is one
  Of the territorial sign,
And I am proud I am not a C.I.V.
  But a Soldier of the line.

We were at the Battle of Diamond Hill
  Where the shrieking shrapnel fell;
And the three days fight at Bergendal
  Was like a living Hell.
We were on the march to Komatipoort
  To the land of the Portuguese,
To that fever-stricken vale of death
  Where they took no C.I.V.'s;
For they wanted only regular corps
  And scorned the kid-glove ten,
And took on the march through the fever swamps
  Only seasoned fighting men.

We had no reporters with us
  To write of victories won,
To guy the people of Britain
  Of things we had never done.
We did not wither away like flowers
  That die for the want of rain
Though we lost more men in a single fight
  Than they did in the whole campaign;
Although we are only a regular corps
  Far moved from the upper ten,
We are to fight to the end of the war
  Like Soldiers and like Men.

They gave us no banquets when we set sail
  To the land beyond the seas;
For we were a Regiment of the line
  And not the C.I.V.'s.
We were never fed like fighting cocks
  And pampered like Earls and Dukes,
For they are sons of belted Earls
  And we are the sons of cooks;
But we are the sons of fighting sires
  Who fought with the sword, not pens;
We have no friends on the London Press,
  For we're only common Men.—D.C.

RATHER VAGUE.—The sergeant-major of a crack Highland Regiment lately stationed at Aldershot was taking part along with the regiment in a night attack. Passing through one of the plantations so numerous in the Long Valley he happened to kick his foot rather violently against the stump of a tree. He was heard to mutter furiously:—"D——those night attacks! Why can't they manage to do them through the day?"

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Hammer and Shot.

—o—

Some remarkable performances with the hammer and shot were made at the various meetings in Scotland, during the "Highland Games" season just closed. At Alexandria, Dumbartonshire, in June, James Morrison, Partick Police, threw a hammer weighing 16 lbs. 1½ oz., with a 4 ft. 2 in. handle, a distance of 120 ft. 7 in. in the usual standing style of delivery, the ground having a declivity of 1 in 100. At Pitlochry, Perthshire, in August, G. H. Johnstone, Aberdeen, sent a 16 lb. hammer (cane-handled, ½ oz. overweight), 119 ft. 6 in. on ground dead level, which is a new world's record.

Charles Maclean, Fort William, Inverness-shire carried all before him at putting the 16 lb. ball At Dunoon, he got over the extraordinary distance of 46 ft. 5½ in. on ground 6 in. down hill in 100 ft. A. A. Cameron, Partick Police, at the Glasgow Exhibition, on ground very slightly off the level very nearly equalled Chas. Maclean's best put with the 22 lb. ball by a splendid put of 37 ft. 10 in.

The following are the two best performances in each event at the various meetings, on ground level, or nearly so, the weight of hammers, etc., correctly stated, and the measurements certified :—

Throwing 16 lb. Hammer (Standing style).

Distance.	*Place.*	*Athlete.*
120 ft. 7 in.	Alexandria	J. Morrison.
119 ft. 6 in.	Pitlochry	G. H. Johnstone.
	Putting 16 lb. Ball.	
46 ft. 5½ in.	Dunoon	Chas. Maclean.
46 ft.	Crieff	Do.
	Putting 22 lb. Ball.	
38 ft. 2 in.	Inverness	Chas. Maclean.
37 ft. 10 in.	Glasgow Exibition	A. A. Cameron.
	Throwing 22 lb. Hammer.	
95 ft.	Inverness	G. H. Johnstone.
93 ft.	Invercharron	Do.
	Throwing 56 lb. weight. One hand, one turn.	
30 ft. 8 in.	Dunoon	G. H. Johnstone.
30 ft. 7 in.	Helensburgh	Do.
	Running High Leap.	
5 ft. 11 in.	Bridge of Allan	J. Buchan.
5 ft. 11 in.	Dunoon	Do.
	Running Long Leap.	
21 ft. 2 in.	Alexandria	Chas. Gillies.
21 ft. 2 in.	Kinross	Do.
	Running, Hop, Step and Leap.	
45 ft. 2 in.	Alexandria	Chas. Maclean.
45 ft. 1 in.	Do.	Chas. Gillies.
	Pole Vaulting	
10 ft. 6 in.	Markinch	A. Dempster
10 ft. 6 in.	Fort William	Chas. Maclean

The latest Americanism of a "silly" person.—A man with a leak in his think tank.

Volley Firing Teams at Bareilly.

—o—

PERHAPS the following account of the sojourn at Bareilly of the teams for the Inter-Company Volley Match may be of interest.

The teams (*i.e.*, one per company) left for Bareilly under Captain Tweedie and 2nd Lieutenant James by the 3-25 P.M. train, on the afternoon of the 24th November, at which place we arrived some three hours later, and were attached to companies of the Border Regiment. The two following days were devoted to practice, and the task of sighting our rifles proved a by no means easy one owing to the capricious winds we had to battle with. The third and final day was even worse than the two preceding ones, good shooting being quite an impossibility, and only for the lack of time, firing would have been postponed. But, as the Frenchman would say, "Faire bonne mine," so likewise we put the best possible face on, and the first four teams—"A," "G," "C," and "E" Companies—commenced firing about 9-30 P.M. The nature of the competition was the "Inter Company Volley Team Match," for British Infantry: teams to consist of 1 N.-C. O. and 8 men. Conditions: 10 deliberate volleys at 800 yards (lying), and 10 at 600 yards (lying). Magazines to be charged with 8 cartridges, one minute being allowed for firing. Rounds in magazine to be expended before loading from the pouch with the two remaining rounds. When the firing commenced there was about 8 ft. of wind blowing and the shooting was spoilt as the result.

By the time the last four teams—"B," "F," "D," and "H," Companies—were ready to fire, the wind had risen still more, consequently the scores were even worse than those of the first four companies. "G" Company last year's champions and the present shield-holders, came a good first in the battalion with 107 points to their credit, and their's is the only score worth mentioning, the next best being 22 points behind. However, it is not to be expected that even the foregoing score will stand a chance, so we can only live in hopes of doing better next year.

During the stay of the teams at Bareilly, a football match was played with the 71st Field Battery, R. A., on the latter's ground. The game started about 4-45 P.M., and the first half was played extremely well, considering the fact that the 93rd were dressed in khaki trews and ankle shoes. Half time was called with no goals scored. On resuming the second half the game slackened, both sides seeming fatigued. About fifteen minutes from the re-start the artillery scored the first and only goal of the match through Coventry, the 93rd's goal keeper, falling. After this the game became quite uninteresting and the last ten minutes was played

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in almost darkness. Final result—71st, F. B. R., A., one goal; 93rd, *nil*.

The following composed the team:—*Goal*, Pte. Coventry; *Backs*, Ptes. Kerr and McNie; *Half Backs*, Ptes. McLean, Benson and Hamilton; *Forwards*, Pte Auchinvol, Corpls. Jamieson and Wilson, Ptes. McDonald and Grant.

J. B.

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Ninety-third Calendar for January 1902.

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1.	W.	Proclamation Day. Est. reduced from 55 sergts., 2 drmrs., 1,000 rank and file to 45, 22, and 800, respectively, 1817. Col. W. W. Knollys relinquished command, 1879. Col. E. D. H. Macpherson of Cluny relinquished command, 1884. Right Wing under Major J. S. Napier arrived, Nowshera from Mian Mir, 1896. Farewell inspection by Brig.-Gen. Egerton, C. B., D. S. O., A. D. C., Comdg. Tochi F. F. at Boya, 1898.
2	Th.	Cluny Macpherson of Cluny to command, 1879. Col. A. C. Nightingale to command, 1884.
3	F.	Boya for Miran Shah, Tochi F. F., 1898.
4	S.	Transports with Ninety-Third on board anchored in Table Bay, 1806.
5	S.	
6	M.	Landed Lospard Bay, South Africa, 1806, (35 men drowned by upsetting of a boat, Right Wing emb. H. M. S. *Inconstant* for Canada, 1838).
7	Tu.	
8	W.	Defeat of Cape Dutch at Baluwe Berg by Sir David Baird, 1806 (2 men killed; 5 officers, 53 N.-C. O's. and men wounded). New Orleans, 1815: 5 officers, 120 N.-C. O's. and men killed; 12 officers, 368 men wounded; 4 officers, 102 men missing. Emb. *Tamer* for Gibraltar, 1879.
9	Th.	First detachment ("E" Co.) to Fort Attock, 1896.
10	F.	Col. H. G. Moore relinquished command, 1888.
11	S.	Lieut.-Col. W. S. Mills to command, 1888.
12	S.	
13	M.	"Guthri" draft arrived Nowshera, 1896.
14	Tu.	
15	W.	Severe earthquake shock felt at Nowshera and throughout Northern India, 1896.
16	Th.	Centenary Games, Bareilly, 1901.
17	F.	Disembarked Gibraltar, 1879.
18	S.	Cape of Good Hope surrendered to Force under Sir David Baird, 1806. Left Miran Shah for India, Tochi F. F., 1898.
19	S.	
20	M.	Re-crossed frontier to Edwardesabad (Bannu), Tochi F. F., 1898.
21	Tu.	
22	W.	
23	Th.	Left Wing emb. H. M. S. *Pique* for Canada, 1838.
24	F.	
25	S.	
26	S.	"Tug-of-War" Shield won "A" Co., 1898.
27	M.	Emb. Plymouth for Malta, 1854.
28	Tu.	
29	W.	*Inconstant* arrived Halifax, N. S., 1838.
30	Th	
31	F.	

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what i hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.

That it has been a grand month—for gairds.

That its "Hoo mony the day Sairgent"

That some queer faces hae been seen lately on gaird-mounting.

That some were gaun on wi' aboot *three years* in bed.

That we're gaun tae be a great shooting batt.

That he would aim low and shoot the innocent.

That he would shoot all officers according to rank.

That he would shoot the captain of the week.

That his post extended along the "puir mehter."

That he would keep all persons ten *hundred* paces clear of the wire.

That he got the foot ta'en aff by the knee.

That he wanted two mekometers to lay out a cricket pitch.

That he wis appointed a *Boer* Polisman.

That he could cook biling watter wi' ony man.

That how far would he go without stopping if he stopped.

That he's ta'en the bounty.

That he kens his dreel.

That a' his money is planked away in the P. O.

That he wis only three-quarter-plate.

That he has done it noo, "Puir man."

——: o :——

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACT FROM LONDON GAZETTE

Dated 15th October, 1901.

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders):—Sergeant-Major Robert Lundie to be Quartermaster with the Honorary rank of Lieutenant, *vice* Denholm retired.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant:—No. 3344, Lance-Sergeant A. Lawrie, "F" Company, dated 25th October 1901.

To be Sergeant, Unattached List:—No. 5501 Corporal J. Houston, with effect from 23rd December, 1900, under authority, No. 293, Bengal Command Head Quarters, dated Naini Tal, 22nd November 1901.

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To be Sergeant, Unattached List :—No. 2458, Private E. Lillywhite, with effect from 5th September 1901, under authority, No. 7899, Punjab Command Head Quarters, dated Rawalpindi, 7th November 1901.

PAY OF RANK.

To be paid Lance-Sergeant :—No. 4301, Corporal J. Gilbert, "H" Company, dated 26th November, 1901.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be acting Sergeant-Major :—No. 1085, Color-Sergeant T. Chaplain, "D" Company.

To be Pay Sergeant of "A" Company :—No. 3151, Sergeant C. Stubbs, "H" Company.

To be Regimental Assistant Instructor in Signalling :—No. 3394, Sergeant J. Durnan, "F" Company.

To be Acting Armourer Sergeant:—No. 6272, Private J. Leitch, "G" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals :—No. 5170, Private W. Jamieson, "A" Company, dated 12th November 1901; No. 5022, Private J. McLachlan, "A" Company, dated 15th November, 1901; No. 5132, Private F. Wainwright, "F" Company, dated 23rd November, 1901.

To be Bandsmen :—No. 5716, Private T. McGeechan, "A" Company; No. 5708, Private J. Tierney, "C" Company.

To be Military Policemen in the Boer Camp :—
No. 3896, Private A. Maclennan, "A" Company.
„ 4595, „ J. Dolan, "B" „
„ 4048, „ J. Diplock, "E" „

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 2d. per diem :—

"B" Company.
No. 7808, Private W. Ferguson.

"C" Company.
No. 5563, Pte. J. Dott. | No. 5554, Pte. M. Sharp.
No. 5562, Lance-Corporal J. McNair.

"D" Company.
No. 4818, Pte. J. Lapsley. | No. 5198, Pte. J. Marshall
No. 5535, Lance Corporal R. Watson.

"E" Company.
No. 5551, Lance Corporal W. Montgomery.

"H" Company.
No. 5566, Pte. H. Wilson | No. 5520, Pte. D. Lamont.

At 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.
No. 7131, Private T. Blair.

"C" Company.
No. 5402, Private J. Watson.

"E" Company.
No. 6491, Pte. J. Herbert. | No. 5110, Pte. J. Greig.
No. 6125, Private G. Patrick.

"F" Company.
No. 6179, Pte. J. Davidson. | No. 6072, Pte. J. Jamieson.
No. 5960, Private J. Dinwoodie.

"H" Company.
No. 5903, Pte. J. Hamilton. | No. 4576, Pte. A. McDougall.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service :—
No. 3394, Sergeant John Durnan, "F" Company.

To complete twelve years with the colours on receiving a bounty of Rs. 150, with an additional gratuity of Rs. 247-8-0 in lieu of furlough to England, in accordance with G. O. C. C. 716 of 1901 :—

"A" Company.

No. 5170, Lce.-Cpl. W. Jamieson.	No. 5357, Lce.-Cpl. J. Stewart.
No. 5373, Pte. T. May.	No. 4935, Pte. J. Lillie.
„ 4534, „ C. Smith.	„ 4712, „ J. Brown.
„ 5353, „ P. Hay.	„ 4975, „ W. A. Clarke.
„ 4531, „ C. J. Armour.	„ 4304, „ A. H. Hansen.

No. 5022, Lce.-Cpl. J. McLachlan.

"B" Company.

No. 5410, Pte. H. Bartholmew.	No. 5504, Pte. G. Stevenson.
No. 4973, „ T. Harrison.	No. 4663, „ W. Glass.
„ 5474, „ J. Scott.	„ 5472, „ J. Robertson.
„ 4696, „ B. Harris.	„ 5486, „ P. Struthers.

"C" Company.

No. 5490, Pte. J. Smith.	No. 5044, Pte. J. McMahon.
„ 5402, „ J. Watson	„ 4310, „ R. French.
„ 4704, „ J. Smith	„ 4216, „ H. Whyte.
„ 4417, „ J. Riddell.	„ 5229, „ W. Saunders.
„ 4672, „ C. Stewart.	„ 5136, „ T. Dale.
„ 4940, „ J. Kerr.	„ 4906, „ T. Craig.
„ 4563, „ A. Adams.	„ 4437, „ J. M. Elder.
„ 4989, „ G. Kerr.	„ 4902, „ G. Golledge.

"D" Company.

No. 5394, Pte. J. Ross.	No. 6142, Pte. W. Rastall.
„ 5488, „ A. Gillan.	„ 5163, „ J. Allan.
„ 4287, „ J. Boyle.	„ 5116, „ A. Macdonald.
„ 5205, „ J. Cross.	No. 5118, Pte. D. McLean.
„ 4770, „ J. Collins.	„ 5294, Corpl. J. Stevenson.
„ 5242, „ J. Orr.	

"E" Company.
No. 4048, Pte. J. Diplock. | No. 4630, Pte. G. Duncan.
No. 4552, Pte. D. Clark.

"F" Company.

No. 4509, Pte. A. McNeil.	No. 4092, Pte. J. Nolan.
„ 4427, „ W. Murphy.	„ 5484, „ G. Ure.
„ 4800, „ W. Moran.	„ 5095, „ L. O'Connor
„ 5358, „ D. Tosh.	„ 4436, „ D. McMullen
„ 5335, „ G. Downs.	„ 4442, „ W. Rae.

No. 5363, Pte. R. McNie.

"G" Company.

No. 4907, Pte. J. Cosgrove.	No. 4292, Pte. R. Stirratt.
„ 4050, Bdmn. E. Lillywhite.	„ 4619, „ W. McKinnon.
„ 5387, Pte. R. Munro.	No. 4792, Pte. G. Cunningham.

"H" Company.

No. 4665, Pte. J. Crawford.	No. 4237, Pte. J. Kellagher.
„ 5243, „ H. Lawrie.	„ 4643, „ M. McGuire.
„ 4838, „ J. Halford.	„ 4682, „ A. Gray.
„ 4754, „ W. Hawthorne	„ 5017, „ J. Scott.
„ 4923, „ H. McTaggart.	„ 4600, „ A. Burke.

No. 5478, Pte. J. Daily.

To complete twelve years' service with the colours on receiving a bounty of Rs. 150, with furlough for not less than two months in England under the provisions of G. O. C. C. 716 of 1901 :—

"A" Company.
No. 5031, Pte. R. Mackay. | No. 5225, Pte. W. Hastie.

"B" Company.
No. 4330, Pte. A. Kerr. | No. 5507, Pte. W. Reynolds.
No. 4721, Lance-Corporal T. Wylie.

"C" Company.

No. 4369, Pte. J. Dunlop.	No. 4972, Pte. J. Keir.
„ 5516, Lce.-Cpl. S. Anderson.	„ 3870, „ J. M. Brown.

"E" Company.

No. 4366, Pte. A. Graham.	No. 4168, Pte. T. Mansfield.
„ 4949, „ J. Chalmers.	„ 4603, „ B. Brown.

No. 5110, Pte. J. Greig.

"F" Company.
No. 4651, Pte. H. Booth. | No. 5134, Pte. R. Lightbody.
No. 5132, Lance-Corporal F. Wainwright.

"G" Company.
No. 5079, Corporal D. Macgillivray. | No. 5297, Private W. Kirkland.

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"H" Company.

No. 5160, Private D. Perston.

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 3344, Sergeant A. Laurie, "F" to "D" Company.
" 3150, " C. Stubbs, "H" to "A" "
" 2735, " J. Tyndall, "E" to "B" "
" 5716, Bandsman T. M'Geechan, "A" to "F" "
" 5708, " J. Tierney, "E" to "H" "

TAKEN OFF STRENGTH.

Transferred from 2nd Battalion, Cameron Highlanders:—Private James Laird, posted to "B" Company from 29th October, 1901.

Enlisted on 20th November and posted to "F" Company:—Recruit Harry Anthony Cloy.

STRUCK OF STRENGTH.

Embarked on the troopship "Plassey" for England on 8th November:—

No. 2479, Sergeant D. Gordon, "D" Company.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

The number 8123 to Private James Laird, "B" Company.

CHANGE OF NAME.

No. 6440, Lance-Corporal W. Davitt, "E" Company, is permitted to assume the name of Edward McElroy.

No. 5482, Private R. Wright, "D" Company, is permitted to assume the name of Edward Hyde.

SERVICE RESTORED.

In accordance with para. 1842, K. R.:—

No. 6102, Private James White, "H" Company.

REGIMENTAL SCOUTS.

The undermentioned non-commissioned officers and men are the Regimental Scouts and are permitted to wear the badge:—

No.	*Rank and name.*	*Coy.*	*No.*	*Rank and Name.*	*Coy.*
3306,	Sergt. A. Lockie	"G"	5115,	Col. R. Jamieson	"B"
5841,	Corpl. J. Brown	"A"	5378,	L.-Cpl. C. Campbell,	"H"
6078,	L.-Cpl. T. Peacock	"H"	5022,	" W. McLachlan,	"A"
4955,	Pte. D. Hunter,	"A"	4978,	" A. Dale,	"A"
3896,	" A. Maclennan,	"A"	4318,	" J. Ferguson,	"D"
5629,	" R. Graham,	"D"	5681,	" J. Monteith,	"D"
5650,	" J. Campbell,	"D"	4552,	" D. Clark,	"E"
4949,	" J. Chalmers,	"E"	4048,	" J. Diplock,	"E"
5735,	" T. Young,	"E"	5331,	" D. Aird,	"E"
5275,	" H. Brown,	"F"	6072,	" R. Jamieson,	"F"
5807,	" C. Niven,	"F"	6120,	" J. Munro,	"F"
6703,	" W. Houston,	"G"	6074,	" W. Anderson,	"G"
4579,	" W. Benson,	"G"	6160,	" L. McCarthy,	"H"
4078,	" J. Gillon,	"H"	5029,	" A. Scott,	"H"
6418,	" J. Caskie,	"H"	5251,	" W. Carruthers,	"H"

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

BAND AND CASUALS

Best shots of Corporals and Privates.

				£	s.	d.
No. 4878,	Corporal	J. McLachlan,	"C" Coy.	0	15	0
" 3054,	Private	E. Miller,	"F" "	0	9	0
" 5291,	Lce.-Corpl.	R. Tawse,	"D" "	0	9	0
" 4922,	"	R. Green,	"C" "	0	6	0
" 5117,	"	S. McVea,	"C" "	6	6	0
" 6449,	"	G. Yeo,	"C" "	0	4	6

Best shots—Practices 7 to 12

No. 5117,	Private	S. McVea,	"C" Coy.	0	7	0
" 3054,	"	E. Miller,	"F" "	0	5	0
" 3739,	"	A. Hollands,	"B" "	0	3	2½
" 7366,	"	C. B. Painter,	"B" "	0	3	2½
" 4871,	Lce.-Cpl.	J. Riddles,	"D" "	0	3	2½
" 5744,	Private	T. Engleby,	"E" "	0	3	2½

Best shot, No. 6 Practice.

No. 2106, Private J. Ogden "E" Coy. 0 4 1½

Best Section, Part II, Table B.

				£	s.	d.
No. 3927,	Lce.-Corpl.	W. Walker,	"A" Coy.	0	4	1½
" 5595,	Private	A. McAlpine,	"A" "	0	4	1½
" 3928,	"	G. H. Hayward	"A" "	0	4	1½
" 3965,	"	W. Hewlett,	"A" "	0	4	1½
" 5716,	"	J. McGeechan,	"A" "	0	4	1½
" 3864,	"	A. Johnson,	"B" "	0	4	1½
" 5234,	"	A. Gray,	"B" "	0	4	1½
" 3749,	"	A. Hollands,	"B" "	0	4	1½
" 7366,	"	C. B. Painter,	"B" "	0	4	1½
" 5479,	"	D. Anderson,	"B" "	0	4	1½
" 5410,	"	H. Bartholmew,	"B" "	0	4	1½

Section Commander, Best Shooting Section.

No. 4567, Lce.-Sergt. D. Inglis, "G" Coy. 0 4 1½

Best shots with rounds at disposal of O. C. Coy.

No. 5117,	Private	S. McVea	"C" Coy.	0	5	0
" 5740,	"	T. Engleby,	"E" "	0	5	0
" 3054,	"	E. Miller,	"F" "	0	5	0
" 5234,	"	A. Gray	"B" "	0	4	6
" 3595,	"	J. Benson,	"C" "	0	4	6
" 5517,	"	J. Archibald,	"G" "	0	4	6
" 4878,	Corpl.	J. McLachlan	"C" "	0	4	6

"H" COMPANY.

Best Section, Part II, Table B.

No. 8 Sub-section 4 1 1½

Section Commander, Best Shooting Section.

No. 5180, Corporal W. Cockburn, ... 0 7 4½

—:o:—

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

DEATH.

McDonald.—At the Station Hospital, Shahjahanpur, on the 12th November, 1901, No. 4012, Private H. McDonald, "H" Company.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Captain H. H. G. Hyslop	3	0	0
Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean	3	0	0
Sergeant H. Kerr (two local subscriptions)	3	5	10

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following papers:—

"The Men of Harlech"	for September.
"The St. George's Gazette"	" "
"The Yellow Plume"	" October.
"The A. S. C. Journal"	" "
"The Dragon"	" "
"The Thistle"	" "
"The Cawnpore Vol. Magazine"	" "
"The Tiger and the Rose"	" "
"The Lillywhites Gazette"	" November.
"The Green Howard's Gazette"	" "
"The Oakleaf"	" "
"The Sapper"	" "
"The London Scottish Gazette"	" "
"The Military Mail"	Weekly.
"The Aldershot News"	"
"The Rothesay Express"	"

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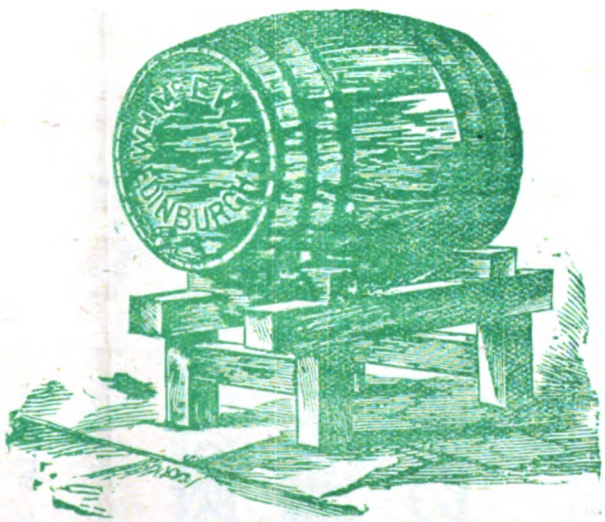

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JANUARY 1902.

The Thin Red Line

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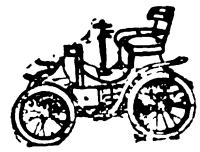

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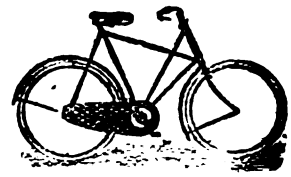

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Vol. VI,
THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. Princess Louise's Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 9—Vol. ~~VII~~ VIII. SHAHJAHANPUR—JANUARY 1902. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

WE heartily wish all our readers "A Happy New Year" and many of them, and thank them and our contributors for their kind support during the past year.

* * * * *

Early in the month there occurred a rather unpleasant incident. A dog belonging to Sergeant Arnott suddenly developed unmistakable symptons of rabies, and Drum-Major Peggie and Sergeant Blair were both bitten on the hand before the animal could be secured. The following day the dog was examined and then destroyed, and both non-commissioned officers were immediately afterwards despatched to Kasauli for treatment at the Pasteur Institute there.

Sergeants Peggie and Blair returned from Kasauli a few days ago, and we are sincerely glad to hear that the treatment accorded them has been successful.

* * * * *

A draft, consisting of Sergeant D. Ritchie, two corporals and one hundred and one men, under 2nd Lieutenant R. D. Falconar-Stewart, arrived on the 11th December. Although nearly all of them are young soldiers they are a remarkably fine looking set of youngsters, and far better in appearance than any one expected they would be. A few of them have seen service with the 1st and 4th Battalions in South Africa. The "Missing Links" is the name suggested for them by the Parrot.

* * * * *

Second Lieutenant R. D. Falconar-Stewart on joining the battalion has been posted to "G" company.

* * * * *

The presence of our Boer guests renders out of the question field days or any parade that would take us too far away from barracks; but as the ground just beyond the ranges, to the north of the camp, offers special facilities for practising outpost schemes, opportunity was taken during the month to keep our knowledge of this important branch of the "art of war" in thorough working order.

* * * * *

According to the Home papers the 8th Provisional Battalion, quartered at Victoria Barracks, Belfast, and the Palace Barracks, Holywood, is the strongest battalion in the United Kingdom. It is composed of details of the Royal Scots, Kings Own Scottish Borderers, and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and musters about 1,700 rank and file, under Colonel L. G. Dundas, C. B., late 6th Royal Fusiliers. Major J. S. Napier, late of this battalion, we are pleased to see, is back to harness again as 2nd-in-command of this enormous battalion.

* * * * *

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Army reform is evidently still engaging the attention of the authorities at Home, as it has been decided to abolish the sabretache for mounted officers.

* * * * *

From the Military Mail:—

One of the three gun-carriages used at the funeral of Queen Victoria was formally placed in the Banqueting Hall, Edinburgh, on Friday. After being unveiled by Bailie Brown, the senior representative of the Corporation present, it was handed over to the custody of the garrison by Colonel Trotter, commanding the 91st Regimental District. The company present included representatives of the regiments forming the Edinburgh Garrison and of the Edinburgh Volunteer Corps.

* * * * *

Captain N. Malcolm, D. S. O., qualified at a recent competitive examination for admission to the Staff College.

* * * * *

Captain D. Darroch has qualified for promotion to the rank of Major (Distinguished in Organisation and Equipment), and Lieutenant J. B. Gillatt for promotion to the rank of Captain (Distinguished in Organisation and Equipment, special mention). Authority G. O. C. C, 999, dated 10th December 1901.

* * * * *

Sergeant G. Forbes has been granted a School of Musketry certificate—Distinguished. Authority G. O. C. C. 1018, dated 18th December 1901.

* * * * *

Pipe-Major John Mackay, of our 4th Battalion, has been awarded a diploma by the Committee of the Glasgow Exhibition. The pipe-band has also been awarded a similar diploma.

* * * * *

Second Class Armourer Sergeant W. H. Wood joined during the month for duty with this battalion, and has been attached to "H" Company.

* * * * *

Lieutenant H. M. Thomson has returned from leave, and taken over command of "B" Company from 2nd Lieutenant Kennedy.

* * * * *

Lieutenant C. A. B. Hamilton, Gloucestershire Regiment, a candidate for appointment to the Indian Staff Corps, has joined the battalion, and is attached to "B" Company for duty.

* * * * *

The battalion was medically inspected during the month for the purpose of selecting men for a sea trip to recruit their health. Evidently the battalion is in prime condition, as only two men were selected out of the whole parade.

* * * * *

Rupees 40-10-0 has been credited to the Battalion for digging the new "Sutherland Recreation Ground" at Ranikhet. "F" Company's share of the spoil is the magnificent sum of two annas.

* * * * *

Carbines are to be issued to the following warrant officers and staff sergeants of Infantry (Regulars and Embodied Militia):—Sergeants-Majors, Quarter-Master Sergeants, Orderly-room Sergeants, Sergeant-drummers, Sergeant-pipers, Sergeant-cooks, Band-Sergeants, Sergeant-master tailors, and Armourer-Sergeants (attached to infantry units). Infantry Transport-Sergeants are also to be armed with a carbine on active service and field manœuvres, and carbine buckets are to be added to the sets of saddlery referred to in Table B, Section I, Part II, Equipment Regulations. Carbines are not to be drawn for the following Warrant officers and Staff Sergeants:—Band-masters, Sergeant-Instructors of Musketry and Canteen-Sergeants.

* * * * *

Captain H. B. F. Baker-Carr, 1st Battalion, has been appointed a Staff Captain for Intelligence on the staff of the army in South Africa

* * * * *

It is notified that vacancies in British battalions in India caused by non-commissioned officers of the rank of sergeant or under being invalided Home may, if still open after six months have elapsed, be filled up, but that acting rank only can be given to non-commissioned officers replacing Colour-Sergeants in similar circumstances. This arrangement will only hold good until demobilisation is ordered.

* * * * *

We take the following cutting, referring to the mobilisation of our 3rd Battalion for service in South Africa, from the *Paisley Express*:—

Recently, the Duke of Montrose received from the War Office a communication authorising the embodiment of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders (3rd Battalion) for service in South Africa. Already the men have responded in the most magnificent spirit, and their comrades in the 4th Battalion have manifested equal enthusiasm. At present, after accounting for casualties during the war, the 4th A & S. H. have an enrolment of fully 600 men, and of that number 269 have volunteered for service with the 3rd Battalion. It should be mentioned that many others wrote stating that they had secured good situations, and only the risk of losing them prevented these men also rejoining the colours. As it is, however, there is reason to believe that the detachment from the local Militia will yet total 350, so that close on a thousand of the A. & S. Highlanders (Militia) should muster for South Africa.

* * * * *

"The Government of India has decided, as a special case, to allow all N. C. O.'s and men to make deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank up to extent of bounties and gratuities paid them for extending their color service to twelve years."

The above is a shining example of "shutting the stable door," etc.; a considerable number of the battalion having spent every pice of their bounty before the above order appeared. A large number of the men banked the two hundred rupees allowed by the Post Office regulations, and then, not choosing to send any money home,

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as they were invariably advised to do, or not having any friends to send money to, they simply rushed through the remainder of their money as quickly as they could. Any one with the slightest knowledge of "Tommy Atkins" will know what that meant, and the worst of it all was that the appetite for spending once created the average "Tommy" or "Sandy" could not limit himself to the amount he had on hand, but had to break into his banking account as well. The yearly banking limit of 200 rupees (£15-6-8) is ridiculous, being the same for a native as it is for a British soldier. When one remembers that the soldier at Home has the privilege of banking up to £50, if he wants to, it looks as if the individuals who framed the P. O. Bank rules for India had the idea of discouraging thrift as much as possible amongst the soldiers of the army in India.

* * * * * *

We congratulate Captain R. J. P. Cox on his recent promotion, and hope that he will have many opportunities of distinguishing himself in the land of the Pharaohs, in which country he is now serving.

* * * * * *

Sergeant-Major A. Macdonald, whom we are pleased to see wearing the crown, paid a visit to Shahjahanpur recently for the purpose of having a look round his old battalion. He is still the keen enthusiast on the subject of musketry he ever was, and we congratulate the Cawnpore Volunteers on their selection.

———:o:———

The Boer Camp.

—o—

ANY old resident revisiting Shahjahanpur after a year or two's absence would be surprised to see what a change the last few months have brought to the formerly quiet station. The large maidan, north of the station, is no longer the scene of polo tournaments and races, but is the site of a large camp, where 949 Boer prisoners of war from South Africa are confined. The camp is roughly five hundred yards square, surrounded by two barbed wire fences, and lighted at night by electric light.

The first thing one notices on entering the camp are several tents under some trees, standing quite apart from the remainder, This is the hospital which, we are glad to state, has up to the present been very empty, the few occupants suffering from slight ailments only. Going on further we find that there are four large blocks of tents with a broad street in the middle. On the east and west sides are two cook-houses and two wash houses all with *chupper* roofs.

The camp is divided into ten sections, each under a Sergeant, and the staff consists of a Commandant, Adjutant, two section Officers and some twenty Military Policemen to keep order in the camp, besides the ten Section Sergeants.

The Boers are very well looked after. They have been supplied with clothing by the Government, and get much the same rations as the British soldier. Seven or eight live in one tent. Their food is cooked by natives, and a certain number of *dhobies* are allowed to wash for them.

There are 23 Boer officers who have a special mess, and only four live in one tent. Any of these can take the parole if they like, and are then allowed out of the camp any time during the day. The burghers have, as a rule, to get passes daily, though a few are allowed permanent passes. They may not quit cantonments. They are a tall big looking lot of men as a whole; their ages range from 12 to 65, and heights about 5 feet to 6 feet 4.

Some people have expressed surprise that such old men and young boys have been sent here as prisoners, so it may be as well to remark that they all took a very active part in the fighting; the young boys were especially useful in bringing up ammunition and holding horses.

There are very few foreigners amongst the prisoners. There are a few Germans, one or two Americans, Swiss, and genuine Dutchmen, but the rest are all proper Boers. Most of them are very tired of the war, and are very anxious to get back to their wives and families, but a few never wish to end the struggle, unless their independence is secured. They seem very struck with India. They thought it was a barren waste of country, and were much surprised at the length of the journey from Bombay. Many of them have been wounded, and some are lame, &c. They seem to find free medical attendance a great boon, and the doctor generally has plenty to do in the mornings curing their small aches and pains.

Once a week they are all taken out for a walk of three or four miles. They are not good walkers and go very slowly indeed, but it is quite a sight to see about 850 going along the road escorted by about 500 men of the 93rd Highlanders.

Some of them are interesting to talk to. One of them escaped from the Paardeberg Laager, another was in de Wet's party when he went from Ladysmith to Paardeberg to try and relieve Cronje. Others will tell you of Spion Kop, Magersfontein, Colenso and all those big fights.

Altogether they seem pleased with their lot here, and are grateful for every kindness. They behave very well and, save in one or two isolated instances, give no trouble. They are very keen on games; and football and cricket are always going on in the camp. They have, too, a tug-of-war team that averages 14 stone and over; and, if properly trained, should be hard to defeat. The camp staff have played two cricket matches against them. The first time the Boers were beaten, but the second was a draw, and if only it had not got dark the finish would have been

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exciting. At football the Boers were also defeated.

Every day at sunrise and sunset there is a service in camp, and their singing can be heard a long way off, and very often it is quite pretty.

There is a school in the camp where the young Boers learn to read and write and also to sing. The latter seems quite an important subject, as they are continually at it. Then there is a watchmaker who seems really quite a good man, and has mended several watches and clocks very well indeed. Another man is a good carver, and does plenty of carving, notably pipes, for various people.

There are three shops in the camp, two being coffee shops, in the original sense of the word, where a cup of coffee only can be obtained at a small price. The third shop is a grocery bar where every little necessary is sold, as in a regimental grocery bar.

No one is allowed into the camp, except the camp officials, without a pass signed by the Commandant, and of course nothing may be taken in or out without permission. It is quite worth a visit to the camp to see how the Boers live; and, if possible, the visitor should take a camera as many of the prisoners seem to like being photographed, especially if they are promised one in return.

There are several amusing anecdotes about some of the prisoners on the way to India. They could not understand what the horizon was, and wanted to know when they would get to the "dark line." The ship called at the Seychelles, and one Boer described the island as a little kopje rising out of the sea, and they thought it extraordinary not to see land "for three whole days."

On arriving at Shahjahanpur one poor old man could not understand what his pillow case was for and began to stuff all his clothes into it. They all seem to be related to each other, and families get together in one tent. They write and receive a lot of letters, all of which of course are carefully censored.

The Boers were much surprised at the sight of a water buffalo, presumably they don't use them in South Africa. Some of them asked if it was tame or wild. They think the coolie very lazy, and one was heard to remark that with the help of the "sjamboh" he would soon be a rich man in India. They like the climate now that it is the cold weather and say it is more like that of their own country. There was quite an excitement one morning after some rain when it was exceptionally clear, and the snow on the Himalayas was plainly visible. They would not believe it was nearly 150 miles off, because they "could not even see as far as that in South Afria." When they were told that the mountains were over 20,000 feet high they were a little more credulous.

Tug-o'-War.

BRITON *v.* BOERS.

IT may be of interest to some of our readers to know that a tug-of-war took place at the beginning of November between the Boer Prisoners of War Camp Police and a team drawn from the ex-Burghers of the South African Republic and Orange River Colony. The conditions of the contest were such as are in vogue at all such feats of strength and endurance. Colonel Campbell, who we believe conceived the idea of the tug-of-war, acted as referee in what proved to be a very lengthy and exciting pull. Victory eventually rested with the enemy, though only after a very tough fight, the balance having more than once veered in favour of each team. Unfortunately no time was taken, but giving the duration of the pull as five minutes would be well within the mark.

It transpired subsequently, with the assistance of the ration stand scales, that the Dutchmen averaged about 14 st. per man, their heaviest turning the scale at 17 st. 10 lbs, whereas the police probably did not average 12 st. per man, their higher training and more active strength enabling them not only to hold the enormous weight on the rope, but also very nearly to snatch the victory. The Camp Police have every reason to look upon their achievement as very satisfactory, considering the great inequality in weight of the two teams, and we congratulate them on the way they held their bulky opponents.

Another pull took place about the middle of November between the Camp Police and a team of the Boers, the latter professing to be of the same weight as their opponents. From the appearance of the Boer team they were at once set down as being at least two stones heavier per man than the Police, and all doubts as to their extra weight were set at rest when on the word pull the Burghers heaved three of the policemen over the line without moving a step themselves. The guardians of the peace recovered their lost footing however, and eventually won. Time 3 minutes 10 seconds. The following are the names of the various teams :—

CAMP POLICE.

Corpl. McInnes,	"B" Coy.	Pte. French,	"C" Coy.
Pte. MacLennan,	"A" "	" Allan,	"D" "
" Anderson,	"B" "	" McFarlane,	"D" "
" Scott,	"B" "	" Lamb,	"E" "
" Dolan,	"B" "	" Stirrat,	"G" "

BOERS.

First Team.

J. Serfontein.	G. Joubert.
M. Oberholzer.	J Breed.
J. C. V. de Berg.	J. H. Vorster.
J. C. Schhoeman.	J. P. Kruger.
J. Delarey.	C. V. Zye.

Second Team.

F. V. Neikerk.	G. Oosthensen.
G. V. Neikerk.	J. Boshof.
P. Sutherlane.	W. Klyngeld.
J. Dutort.	J. Groblaar.
D. J. Kok.	J. Norkie.

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The War-ing of a Woman.

—o—

A STUDY.

Reveillé, Retreat, Tattoo!

Ever repeated in the hollow phantoms of his dreams, ever clanging, dinning in his ears, swelling the streaming memories of the past, forging in loud fanfare, dying in the dimmed distance—the oblivion of his fevered brain.

Reveillé, Retreat, Tattoo!

Again and yet again, a hollow mockery, an ever fading sham. Why did they blow so loudly? Whence the fathomless darkness, his tired eyes could never pierce.

See, he was clutching them with emaciated hand,—they were his own, all his own—ah no. Only to delude him, to expire as speedily as they were created. Thousands on thousands, sweeping the mountain passes of his fancy, cheering with that wild cheer the Briton knows alone, fierce with the lust of blood, burning with that mad longing that is the soldier's birth-right—to kill and not to spare.

And he could not be there! He screamed and prayed—aye, as he never prayed before. For one more hour, one little space of time to gorge the fiery cravings of his passion—to kill and not to spare.

The bugles were calling him—could not they be heard? Why—ah why were they keeping him back? Look—they were killing the wounded a—the women! Great God—lived there no spark of manhood in those countless phantoms?

He heaved and tossed upon his fevered couch, and the tears of a strong man's broken-hearted anguish coursed down his pallid cheeks.

Reveillé, Retreat, Tattoo!

Week in, week out. They were taunting, mocking his enforced idleness. Or had his mind lost all account of time? He had somehow thought he felt it snap when he realized his weakness.

Was he going mad? No, they were at it again—ever mocking, ever calling.

How long was it to last—to be endured? And then the cool slim fingers, he knew so well and unconsciously had learned to love, fell on his burning brow, playing with caressing tenderness through his tangled locks.

And on his ear, tired of the braying of his phantom bugles, fell the low tones—the voice of a good and strong woman, in those melting cadenzes which, through the turmoil of his sickness, had pierced his nightmares as the chanting of the angels—memories of his mother's love—the voice of one whom he had never seen, but in his lucid moments almost imagined as a creation of his teeming brain.

His eyes closed with the ease which is born of absolute content. Presently he slept.

And the woman gazed down upon him, shading a lighted candle with her hand, that its rays might not waken him. Her glance fell upon a bundle of blood-stained clothing on a chair at her side—and she shuddered.

"Oh, my dear," she murmured, bending her head until her lips almost touched his brow. "If you only knew—if you only cared. Is it not enough that your life is hanging on a thread? I could pull you through. I will. But every hour the danger of discovery grows more positive—every moment, I dread your ravings may be heard. Oh, it is hard—it is bitter hard."

She moved aside his rebellious hair with tender hand, kissed his brow softly, blew out the candle and was gone.

The moon beams played through the slit of a window on to the bed—and there was peace in the little room.

* * * * *

The woman drew herself up with a gesture of supreme contempt—her figure lithe as that of an animal at bay.

The man with the cast in his eye nudged his companion and pointed to a chair, flinging his broad hat on the table.

The woman shut the door and then moving to the table, turned up the lamp.

The other man grunted and kicked his squint-eyed friend who was silently puffing at a black cigar, with a leering eye on the post-mistress, and an occasionally knowing wink that seemed to express a desire for closer acquaintance.

She tapped her foot impatiently on the stone floor and clasped her hands behind her back.

Without, the silence of night was startled by the wierd scream of a roaming jackal, followed by the hurried pit-pat of its feet on the verandah.

A barking dog in an outhouse strained for a minute on its chain. The bark died away into a yelp, and once more there was quiet in the room, broken only by the tapping of the woman's foot.

The other man heaved a sigh.

"Jan!"

His companion threw him an inquiring glance and grunted.

"Well?"

"This is a dry job," and he threw a sheepish glance in the direction of a row of bottles on a shelf above the door. He of the squint chuckled and transferred his attention to the patient woman standing in front of him.

She stepped towards him and laid her hand on the table, her foot striking the butt of his rifle.

She was reading their evil faces with a masterly glance, the one cunning and brutal, the other bloated and coarse.

"Well, friends,—I am waiting," she remarked in a strained manner.

Jan shifted uneasily in his chair, and flung the stump of his cigar into the fire.

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"You have entered my house, which is under British protection, you have sat at my table uninvited,—you are armed,—you bring no warrant. Is it not but fair that I should ask you—why?"

The other Boer laughed nervously, Jan bit his moustache.

"Thou," he leered, "thou art but a woman, and one of an accursed race. We are men, and yet enquirest of me why we enter thine abode unasked."

The two men laughed uproariously.

She leant towards them and hissed through clenched teeth.

"Fools!—there is that in every woman of the race you ignore, which in the hour of need would turn the very contempt of your besotted brains into admiration. You cannot play with a Briton, man or woman, as with a Kaffir. Come, I wait your answer."

"I am with thee there," said the other Boer, "'Twas bravely said—Come, Jan—tell the girl thy business and it may be that she will drop in with our views and perhaps—" and he smacked his lips with longing in the direction of the bottles on the shelf.

"It is an easy matter," replied Jan, with a laugh—the very fiendishness of which set the woman shuddering. "I have been here before."

She bit her lip and her finger nails were buried deep in the palms of her hands.

Jan stood upright and folded his arms.

"Where is He?

The post-mistress met his glance unflinchingly, "Who?"

"Why do you bandy words? I am a man of little talk. Tell me where he is that we may take him out and shoot him like a dog." He flung his rifle on the table with a crash.

She leaned across it and even the half drunken Boer still ogling the bottles, shrank back in his chair.

"Remember, Jan Kauffmann," she said in tones quivering with intense excitement.—"Remember, I am a desperate British woman and—draw back before it is too late."

He went white to the lips upsetting his chair with a backward step and broke into a string of filthy curses.

"Where is he?" he yelled, grasping the stock of his rifle with shaking hand.

"Where is the verdommte Rooinek?"

The woman drew a little revolver from behind her back, and the other Boer sprang to his feet.

* * * * * *

The man leaned upon his pillows and listened.

Through a chink in the rough partition angry voices, intermingled with the soft pleadings of the voice he knew so well, smote upon his ear and set his mind in a wondering whirl.

He flung the bed-clothes off, and placed a foot upon the floor. The blood-stained khaki-coat,—a sword with battered hilt and broken scabbard, a portion of a Colt's revolver, his glance drew in every detail, lit by the fiery moonlight of an African summer night.

Then he remembered all. Of the Red Cross tents—the night alarm—the cries of helpless wounded—brave but ill-fated nurses—and, for a moment, maddened by the horror of the recollection some of his old strength came back to him unaided. His weakly fingers clutched the stump of blade which was the shadow of his sword, and he prayed as he fondled it, for one more chance, one more cut at those, who warred with women, as well as men.

And if the Supreme Creator whose throne is on the moonbeams and canopy eternal space, never heard the prayers of those he made, surely that of the wounded man, crowned with the rags of returning health, were wafted upwards and answered.

And through the chink in the doorway streamed the light of a lamp—the light of the terrible tragedy being enacted in the next room. There was the sound of a revolver shot and the thud of something falling. His pulses tingled, his blood was on fire.

The man staggered weakly forward and pressed his ear to the chink in the wall.

He heard the sound of scuffling, of rapidly overturned furniture. The door he leaned against was heavily shaken as by the falling of a heavy body. A sneering invective! "We are two to one!"

"No, no"—the panting woman's voice gave answer. "Only one to one—the one a woman and the other—" with a mocking laugh "a coward. Hold back!"

"Move from that door or by G—."

"Never!"

"Let that infernal English dog fight his own battles. We do not fight with girls."

"You lie!"

The wounded man was shaking at the door for very life.

"Let me in—let me in," he pleaded.

He heard the echoes of a fierce laugh ringing in the rafters.

"Hear him—let him out to meet his doom."

"Good heavens," he heard the woman pant. "He is wounded—he is sick. Have you no pity?"

"Bah! What have you to do with wounded Englishmen. Let us alone—we will drive them back into the sea."

The man in the bed-room trembled with suppressed rage.

"Dog—" he shouted through the chink and excitement gave strength to his voice. "Dog—let me out and I will fling your own words down your throat!"

There was a sound of sudden rush,—the door almost gave way—a shot—the woman's voice in

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the throes of her death agony "Ah!—you coward." A second shot—a thud and total silence.

He burst the wooden door off its hinge and staggered broken sword in hand into the room.

When the smoky haze had cleared away, he saw he was too late.

The bitter disappointment, harder to bear since a thin wooden door alone had separated him from his benefactress, dragged from his eyes the salt tears of a strong man's rage—becoming even in a hero.

With a savage kick at the man's corpse laid across the woman's white dress, he kneeled and laid a hand upon her heart and marked a feeble beat—the echo of a passing life. He pressed back her hair and gazed into her eyes.

Her lips were moving softly and he bent down to hear her words.

"Too late—too late—he doesn't know, he never will know—I lov—."

And she was gone.

He flung open the door and walked slowly on to the moonlit verandah.

For he wanted to be alone with himself with the infinity of space, and the beauties of slumbering creation. HOMO.

The "Coming of age" of Lieutenant J. A. F. MacLean of Ardgour.

On Thursday week the young laird of Ardgour returned home on six months' leave from India, where he is serving with his regiment, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. On the arrival of the steamer at Ardgour, the whole tenantry were in waiting, and received him with a hearty cheer, and he was escorted to the east entrance gate leading to Ardgour House, where a handsome arch had been erected. The laird, who is the sixteenth chieftain of Ardgour, came of age on Tuesday. In honour of the occasion the tenantry were entertained to dinner at the Mansion-house. The health of the young laird was proposed by Mr Thomas Maclean, one of the oldest tenants, who said that the day was a memorable one for them all, as they were that day privileged to welcome home the heir of the ancient and honourable house of Ardgour. As clansmen, they were proud to know that he had adopted the profession of arms, and thus followed in the footsteps of ancestors who had distinguished themselves in the service of king and country. His great-grandfather, although an only son, did not hesitate to share the perils of the Peninsular Campaign; and, similarly, the young laird, although also an only son, now took his place in the British Army. The toast was pledged with great enthusiasm. Ardgour replied in appropriate and feeling terms. The Bishop of Argyll and the Isles proposed the health of Mrs. Maclean and the other members of the Ardgour family, which was acknowledged by the laird on behalf of his mother and sisters. After dinner a torchlight procession was formed and proceeded to Corran Point, where an imposing bonfire had been erected. It was lit by the oldest crofter on the estate, and the health of the laird was there proposed by Archibald Maclean, another crofter.—*The Scotsman.*

Sir Hector Macdonald.

Our Colonial kinsmen in Australia have been entertaining Sir Hector Macdonald lately. Everywhere Sir Hector was accorded a tremendous reception, and of course by no class more enthusiastically then by his "ain" countrymen. The following is from the *Australasian*, a Melbourne paper:—

TALK ON CHANGE.

We are a proud community this week. The Macdonalds and some minor Scottish clans came down as of old Highland hosts "to battle wi' Montrose." I don't know whether there is any whisky of the Montrose brand, but all the same, be sure they battled. Every Highlander one met had an expression that was one-third Hector, one-third patriotism, and the rest perhaps alcohol. It was equally a coincidence that every journalist in Melbourne went about with a Scottish slang dictionary in his coat-pocket, and pleadingly asked any men who ricochetted along the footpath to explain exactly what they meant when they shook hands and said, "We're a' Jock Tamsan's bairns." If one said, "How are ye, Mac?" in Collins-street, half the floating population turned round to answer him. It was all very wonderful and very fine, but the strangest thing of all was the peculiarly Scottish process by which Major-General Sir Hector Macdonald, K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., &c., was in a few brief hours converted into just "Mac":—

They came to the station,
Each Malcolm and Ronald,
All shouting in chorus,
To "Hector Macdonald."

A day passed in Melbourne,
Each Highland elector,
Had shortened the greeting,
They called him just "Hector"

Two days and ten whiskies,
They met for a crack,
He still was their hero—
It was "How are ye, Mac?"

The latest conversion
Was reached fairly quick,
It may have been "Hec,"
But it sounded like "Hic!"

In one instance it looked as though the distinguished soldier had been fairly cornered. It was an after-dinner dispute on an inconsequential subject—indeed, the point at issue was just how long Sir John Forrest had spoken. The "other Sir John," he of the Macintyres, declared for ten minutes, and they left it to the guest to decide. "You spoke for just three minutes," Sir Hector declared. The Federal Minister was eloquently indignant. "If you can pervert facts in that way on matters of vital importance," he said, "it doesn't matter whether you win your battles or not. You can always make it look right in the despatches." "Wait awhile, Sir John," retorted the guest; "when I said that you spoke three minutes, I meant that you spoke for three minutes. The rest of the time it was just 'havers.'"

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Sergeants Mess Notes.

DECEMBER has been quite an eventful month in the Sergeants' Mess; about the beginning of the month the Officers invited the Sergeants over their way to try conclusions at a nice little game of cricket. I don't propose to dwell much on that nice little game however; the subject is rather too painful for the Sergeants. If any one wants to know the scores made by the latter let him go boldly to the Mess Caterer and ask for a look at the scoring book. I should not advise such a proceeding however, some of the team might be hanging around, and in that case a half mile start would be advisable. The Officers were in splendid form on this disastrous occasion, notably Mr. Langton, Mr. McPherson and Captain Campbell, who made 93, 63 and 35 runs respectively in the first innings. No more need be said than that.

* * * * *

On Saturday, 28th December, and again on Tuesday, 31st, the Officers encountered the Sergeants at football. Some marvelous expositions of the game were given on both occasions, at least, so I am told, but having only witnessed one match myself I cannot of course be held responsible for the absolute accuracy of the statement. Every individual member of both teams played a magnificent game, and monopolised the lion's share of it himself, or thinks he did, which amounts to the same thing. Being by no means a football critic myself, I entirely agree with everybody's opinion of the game, as I think it is quite the safest plan for a man whose valuable life is not insured, where football is concerned at any rate. Both matches ended in favour of the Sergeants, the first by 2 goals to love, and the second by 2 goals to 1. Following are the names of those who specially distinguished themselves in the first match.

OFFICERS:—Captain Campbell, Messrs. Thomson, Sandeman, Douglas, Hamilton, Fenzi, Langton, Kennedy, James, Falconar-Stewart and Muirhead.

SERGEANTS:—Durnan, Beavis, Wallace, Forbes, Ballantine, Ogg, Crawford, Ritchie, Snowdon, Watson and Mahoney.

* * * * *

In return for the splendid hospitality constantly shown to our mess by that of the Border Regiment a two days entertainment was given to the latter on the 18th and 19th December. Our guests arrived from Bareilly on the forenoon of the 18th, and after luncheon had been disposed of and some of the sights of Shahjahanpur had been visited, a migration was made to the tennis courts. The tennis tournament was won by us, but was hardly an exciting affair, everyone seemed out of form somehow or other. As quite a large number of the ladies turned up at this event badminton became the game of the moment, and the afternoon finished off gaily enough. Billiards came off next, and was also won by us, and the evening was brought to a conclusion by a smoking concert, held in the mess tents. The programme contained some excellent items, and is appended:—

PROGRAMME.

Song ... ... The Good-bye at the door.
Sergeant CRAWFORD.
Song ... ... There aint no room for me.
Encore ... ... Story of a kiss.
Schoolmaster CAULFIELD.
Song ... ... When your hair grows whiter.
Sergeant CHARD.
Song ... ... Mountaineer's Song.
Sergeant BARRETT.
Song ... ... Love's old sweet song.
Sergeant DAVENPORT.
Song ... ... The Sailor.
Encore ... . Mary was a Nursemaid.
Mr. JOWITT.
Song ... ... All's well.
Sergeant DURNAN.
Song ... ... Rowdy Dowdy Boys.
Color-Sergeant THOMSON.
Song ... ... Break the news to Mother.
Sergeant RITCHIE.
Song ... ... Father calls it wrong.
Sergeant CANNON.
Song ... ... Hindu Love Song ("Billy").
Sergeant LEECH.
Song ... . Why does London wait.
Qr.-Mr. Sergt. WARD.
Song ... ... My old Kentucky Home.
Sergeant THORNHILL.
Song ... ... Wedding Morning.
Sergeant WATSON.
Song ... ... For Old Time's Sake.
Bandmaster DAVIES.
Song ... ... Goodness of Wine.
Sergeant WILKINSON.
Song ... ... Good Night.
Sergeant BEAVIS.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

During the course of the evening Qr.-Mr. Sergt. Ward, proposed the health of the Ninety-third, to which Qr.-Mr. Sergt. Robertson replied, and the visitors were toasted with Highland honours.

* * * * *

The following day a cricket match was played. Color-Sergeant Balcombe and Sergeant Beavis captained their respective teams. The Borders won the toss and batted first, putting together a total of 70 runs. Our team then went to the wickets, and surprised themselves by making the spendid total of 115 runs. Many thanks are due to Sergeant Daniel for his splendid batting, and also to Sergeant Beavis for his bowling, the latter taking 6 wickets for 13 runs. On the conclusion of the first innings the teams adjourned for tiffin, which was served in the mess tents. At 2 P.M. play was again resumed, the Borders going to the wickets for their second innings. They had managed to

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put together 100 runs for 7 wickets when stumps were drawn, leaving our team the winners. The afternoon concluded by a capital impromptu concert held in the tents erected beside the cricket pitch. Nearly all the ladies were present and ably assisted in promoting the success of the entertainment. Mrs. Marks played delightfully some pianoforte selections, and Mrs. Swan contributed to the enjoyment by a song. Altogether a very happy afternoon was spent.

Cards occupied the remainder of the evening until the hour came round for our visitors to depart. As time is constantly advancing, soon farewells had to be said, and we were left to plough our lonely furrows and look after the Boers and ourselves as usual.

The following are the scores of the different competitions :—

CRICKET.

Sergeants, Ninety-Third.—Sergeant Daniel, 68; Sergeant Olden, 0; Band Sergeant Hall, 8; Sergeant Durnan, 3; Sergeant Mahoney, 2; Sergeant Crawford, 0; Sergeant Beavis, 5; Sergeant Marks, 7; Pioneer Sergeant Snowdon, 0; Sergeant Ballantine, 11; Color-Sergeant Gilmour, 7; Extras, 4. Total 115.

Sergeants, Border Regiment.—Color-Sergeant Thomson, 7, 14; Sergeant Davenport, 10, 38; School-master Caulfield, 5, 7; Sergeant Cannon, 13, 5; Sergeant Rose, 0, 14; Sergeant Drummer Farrell, 9; Sergeant Roe, 3, 2; Sergeant Scrivner, 5; Sergeant Doyle, 3; Sergeant Wilkinson, 6, 1; Color-Sergeant Balcombe, 1, 16; Extras, 8, 3. Totals 70, 100.

BILLIARDS.

Ninety-third.		Border Regiment.	
Color-Sergeant Smith. / Sergeant Ogg	1	Sch. Mr. Caulfield ... / Sergeant Murphy ...	0
Qr.-Mr. Sergt. Robertson / Sergeant Inglis ...	1	Color-Sergt. Shepherd / Sergeant Davenport ...	0
Sergeant Mahoney .. / „ Yardley ...	1	Sergeant Drmr. Farrell / „ Harman ...	0
Sergeant Tyndall ... / „ Ritchie ...	0	„ Wilkinson ... / „ Doyle ...	1
Total wins, 93rd ...=	3	Border Regiment .. =	1

TENNIS.

Sergeant Durnan ... / „ Kerr	4	Color-Sergt. Thomson. / Sergeant Davenport ...	6
„ Scott ... ... / Color-Sergt. Gunn ...	6	Color-Sergt. Shepherd / Sergt. Drmr. Farrell...	5
Sergeant Stubbs ... / „ Wallace ...	6	Sch. Mr. Caulfield ... / Sergeant Doyle ...	2
Total wins, 93rd ...=	16	Border Regiment =	13

General M'Clellan when in command of the army conducted a waiting campaign, being so careful not to make any mistakes that he made very little headway. President Lincoln once sent him this brief but exceedingly pertinent letter: "My Dear M'Clellan,—If you don't want to use the army, I should like to borrow it for a while. Yours respectfully,—A. LINCOLN."

Ranikhet Notes.

—o—

On the departure of the detachment of the 1st Battalion of the 3rd Ghurkas the Treasury Guard had to be found from the Winter Section for a time. This entailed pretty heavy work on all, but duty has resumed its normal condition again as the guard is now found by a detachment of the Police from Almora.

* * * * *

The patients in the Station Hospital were entertained in the Hospital Library on Christmas night. Colonel and Mrs. Cowan and Captain and Mrs. Burke kindly dispensed tea and cake, and did everything in their power to make their guests feel at home. A very successful little concert brought a pleasant and enjoyable evening to a close.

* * * * *

A heavy shower of rain on the 27th December was followed on the afternoon of that date by a snowstorm, which lowered the temperature considerably, and caused the troops to look out and don their warmest clothing.

* * * * *

On Boxing Night the Detachment Dance Club held a very successful supper and dance in the A. T. A. rooms. Great credit is due to the club for the manner in which everything was conducted. The room was prettily decorated, and the purveying was all that could be desired. Songs were sung between the dances which tended to enliven the proceedings, and altogether a highly satisfactory night's enjoyment was the result.

———: o :———

AT GENERAL'S INSPECTION.

General walking round Company rooms stops opposite a Private, and asks him if his "next of kin" is entered in his pocket ledger.

Private, who is slightly deaf.—Beg pardon, sir.

General repeats his question.

Private thinks he understands this time, and diving under his bed brings up a pair of shoes and shoves them under the General's nose, at the same time ejaculating, "newly soled and heeled, sir."

———: o :———

OVERHEARD IN THE A. T. A. ROOM.

DRAFTIE—Bearer bring me a cup o' char.

BEARER—Ajah Sahib, anything to eat? nice door-e-step, buns, Jam-tarts, got it.

DRAFFIE (spinning the bat) Nai cup char burat.

BEARER—Sahib! toom nai malum dry tea very bad for e stomach this country.

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Football.

—o—

WINTER has come round again bringing with it all the excitements attendant on playing or witnessing the favourite national pastime of "fitba." If we can "take in" all that the regimental critics and agitators say, the season now commencing will be a notable one in the history of the game in the regiment. Let us hope so at any rate! The company teams are much the same as last season, with, of course, "a tora spice" from the last two drafts. To these younger comrades in arms who are appearing for their companies we wish the best of luck, and trust they will do something in the football line to instil fresh interest in the game. The league was opened on Monday, 2nd December, by "A" and "D" Companies.

LEAGUE MATCHES.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*D*" *Company.*—2nd December. It was early seen that both teams desired to table up the points, and naturally the play was all that could be desired from a spectator's point of view. After ten minutes give and take play Brown scored a beauty for "A" Company. Shortly after this a penalty fell to "D" Company, and McKenzie utilized the opportunity by putting both teams on a level. From this to the finish "D" Company did all the pressing, Cunningham cleverly putting them one goal to the good, and shortly afterwards McGregor added another. This was too much for "A" Company, who did a most reprehensible thing in trotting off the field shortly after half-time. Result, "D" 3 goals, "A" 0.

"*D*" *Company.*—Coventry, McKenzie, Campbell, Graham, McMaster, McGregor, Pollock, Cunningham, McLay, McArthur, Allan.

"*A*" *Company.*—Maclennan, Park, Briton, Allan, McAlpine, Hudghton, Brown, Stewart, McAllister, Drain, Quinn.

"*B*" *Company* v. "*C*" *Company.*—3rd December. Was stiffly contested by both teams, though "C" Company, without a doubt, had the most of the play, but were terribly weak in front of the goal, missing at least three good chances during the first half of the game. On the other hand "B" was playing a magnificent defence. During a bit of a tussle in front of "B's" goal Leitch sent in a shot which looked like a goal, and was given as such by the referee. The ball was centred, and up to the call of time both teams worked like demons. After the game was finished, "B" Company lodged a protest on the ground that the ball never passed through the goal, but instead passed about two feet on the outside of the post.

"*B*" *and* "*C*," *Replayed Tie.*—7th December. The Sports Committee deciding in favour of "B" Company's protest, sufficient evidence proving that no goal had been scored in the match on 3rd December, these two teams took the field again. Both teams appeared in prime condition, but, strange to say, this match was a bit slack compared to the previous one, the players appearing over anxious and excited. After a fairish game the time was called without a goal being notched for either side. Result a draw, no goals scored.

"*B*" *Company.*—Gray, Kerr, Scott, Lieut. Herbert, Logan, Johnston, Morrison, Hutton, Hendry, Mossman, Ferguson.

"*C*" *Company.*—French, Gibson, Kerr, Laird, Mcdonald, Soutar, Clements, Hogg, Cairns, Leitch, Geddes.

"*F*" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company.*—4th December. As expected the game between these two rivals proved to be a hard one, "F" scored the first point by Watson after a nice bit of play. "G" was granted a penalty, and McAuley, who took the kick, placed it safely in the net, bringing the teams level. "G" Company had most of the remainder of the play, but they could not shoot for goals for nuts. Turnbull put "F" again in lead, and the game thereafter dropped into what might be called an easy-oxy sort of style, not the sort of game one expects to see from *classical* football companies, like "F" and "G." Result, "F" 2 goals, "G" 1.

"*F*" *Company.*—Maywood, Wallace, McNee, McGowan, Watson, Auchinvol, Moore, O'Connor, Fraser, Cloy, Turnbull.

"*G*" *Company.*—Ellis, Baker, Mullholland, Brown, Benson, McMillan, Wilson, McAuley, Gilmour, McArthur, Maslin.

"*E*" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company.*—6th December. This was rather an uninteresting match, several of both teams, regular players being absent. "The Bulldogs" ("H" Company) completely walked through their opponents. Result, "H" 3 goals, "E" 0.

"*H*" *Company.*—Scott, Kellagher, Halford, Bridges, Comrie, Dawson, Grant, Burke, McColl, Campbell, McLuckie.

"*E*" *Company.*—McCue, Kennedy, Engleby, Stevenson, Gallagher, Hamilton, Clarke, Campbell, Lewington Montgomery, Higgins.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*F*" *Company.*—9th December. A very poor game, "F" Company having it all their own way. Result, "F" 2 goals, "A" 0.

"*B*" *Company* v. "*E*" *Company.*—10th December. The play at the start was very fast, but both teams had about an equal share of the play. Campbell notched the first and only point for "E" about ten minutes from the start from a scrimmage near goal. "B" tried hard to equalise matters but failed, and two minutes from the call of time found them still hammering away at "E" company's goal. McCue in saving rushed too far out with the ball, and a foul should have been the result, but to the surprise of every one a penalty was given. Henry took the kick and placed it well, but McCue saved miraculously, and immediately afterwards the whistle sounded. Result, "E" 1 goal, "B" 0.

"*C*" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company.*—11th December. This proved a hard and fast game, and try as they would neither side could score during the first half. "C" Company tried two players from the last draft, and they made a satisfactory *debut.* Result, "C" 1 goal, "H" 1.

"*D*" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company.*—13th December. "G" showed their superiority right through the game and won easily. Result, "G" 3 goals, "D" 0.

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"A" Company v. *"B" Company.*—16th December. The clock-holders were deficient of two of their regular players, whilst "A" was greatly strengthened by the inclusion of some new "talent" discovered amongst their draft. The game was an exceedingly interesting one, and resulted in a win for "A." Surely this was a surprise packet! Result, "A" 2 goals, "B" 0.

"C" Company v. *"D" Company.*—It was generally thought that this was a sure thing for "C," but such was not the case, for "D" played a hard game, and defied the efforts of the "Light Troop" to chalk up two points at their expense. No goals were scored, and "C" Company registered its third draw for the three league matches it has played.

"E" Company v. *"F" Company.*—18th December. Very little can be said about this match; "F" had almost all their own way, "E" showing very poor combination. Result, "F" 3 goals, "E" 0.

"G" Company v. *"H" Company.*—20th December. This proved to be a hard tie. Both teams played well, and a draw would have been a fitting termination of the game. At half time both teams stood level, no goals being scored, but within a minute from the resumption of play "G" scored; shortly afterwards "H" drew level with their opponents and continued to press up to nearly the call of time; when, however, "G" Company's forwards managed to break away, and Houston had the satisfaction of adding the winning point with a fine shot from about thirty yards from goal. Everyone must admit that it was really a grand shot, and would have done credit to a full-blown "Pro." at Home. Result, "G" 2 goals, "H" 1.

"A" Company v. *"H" Company.*—23rd December. "Phila" and the "Bulldogs" are well matched, and they gave a very fair exhibition indeed. A minute before half-time Burke scored a clever goal for "H." About ten minutes from the restart "A" equalised matters, and then the *tug-o'-war* commenced—excuse me, for one couldn't say football—close on time Campbell scored for "H" who won the match by the skin of their neck. Result, "H" 2 goals, "A" 1.

"C" Company v. *"F" Company.*—This was the match of the season so far as it has went. From start to finish both teams played like heroes. Previous to this game "F" had had three wins, and "C" three draws, so much depended on the result, and excitement reigned supreme throughout the match. At half-time "F" was leading by one goal to love, and seemed quite confident of pulling off the points, but "C" troop were determined they would win, and immediately the second half commenced they gave a practical demonstration of their intentions by equalising. About one and-a-half minutes from time Cairns scored the winning point for "C" amidst the wildest excitement. "C" Company deserve every credit for their victory, as they were playing with only ten men, one of their players being worse than useless. Result, "C" 2 goals, "F" 1.

"B" Company v. *"G" Company.*—20th December. At the start both teams seemed inclined to take things very easy, and the game simply dragged on for a time. After a while play improved, and "G" Company had hard lines in not scoring. "B" had some tries, too, but none of them came off. It is rather a curious fact that up till now, though more than half way through the competition, "B" have failed to score a single goal. Towards the end of the game "G" was granted a penalty kick, but nothing came of it, and the game ended in a draw, no goals being scored.

"D" Company v. *"E" Company.*—27th December. This was a fairly well balanced game. The first half was rather slack, but in the second period there was a slight improvement, especially after "E" commenced scoring. Result "E" 2 goals, "D" 1.

LEAGUE TABLE FOR DECEMBER 1901.

Order.	Company.	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	Goals. For.	Goals. Against.	Points.
1	"F"	4	3	0	1	8	3	6
2	"C"	4	1	3	0	3	2	5
3	"H"	4	2	1	1	7	4	5
4	"G"	4	2	1	1	6	3	5
5	"E"	4	2	0	2	3	7	4
6	"D"	4	1	1	2	4	6	3
7	"A"	4	1	0	3	4	7	2
8	"B"	4	0	2	2	0	3	2

OTHER MATCHES.

Draft v. *Regiment.*—14th December. The time-honoured custom of a selected team from the regiment playing the pick of the draft was observed as usual. Judging from the way the "breeze" played we seem to have secured a few good footballers to the battalion. It could hardly be expected that they would beat the regiment, but nevertheless they made a very plucky show. Result, Regiment 3 goals, Draft 1.

Draft v. *Regiment.*—21st December. It is hardly worth any trouble to comment on this match at all, the regimental team merely amused themselves by shooting for goals. Result, Regiment 7 goals, Draft 0.

What the Parrot is Saying.

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT the "Missing Links" draft has arrived.

That when we gang tae Calcutta we'll hae tae fire oor course o' musketry at We hai-we.

That Jock's *institution* and mine maun hae been the same.

That they were tae "judge" on the tree running along the road wi' the white post.

That it's "gies it noo, gie it."

That it wis "halt visiting rounds," advance orderly officer.

That he would report if an unusual number wis restoring thither at night.

That he could na read but he kent his dreel.

That if he heard a jingling o' the palings he would rush tae the spot.

That he got nae tureen handed ower tae him.

That the sentries would walk *along* the wire fence by day, and at night they would be halved.

That "C" Company's goal wis in the orderly-room being repaired.

That he got scooted oot o' the gaff for having Coffee-shop cheese in his possession.

That snake-charming at midnicht is a new way tae gie vent tae your feelings.

That "chae" Company likes the Punjab, so the barman says.

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That it's drink up yer whack, there's nae Rechabites here.

That he lost his badge but no his guid name.

That it would like tae ken hoo *Bkinpur* wis pronounced Bannockburn.

That it wants the "Precentor" frae each section.

That he selt his parrit tae Davie, his dug tae Wallie, and his nainsel tae his country (for Rupees 247, annas 8).

That he is gaun tae buy a bicycle and a tricycle and *whycycle*.

That the "Vacant Space" and the "Blank File" are the names under consideration for bestowal upon a certain N. C. O.

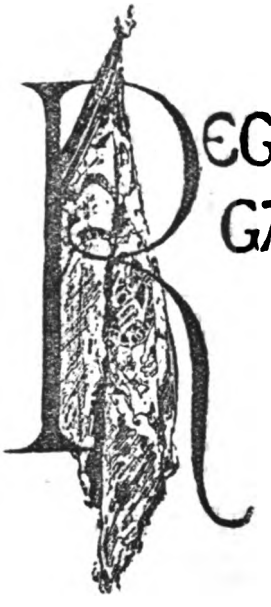
———: o :———

Ninety-third Calendar for January 1902.

—o—

1	S.	Fathgarh for Cawnpore with Hope's Brigade 1858. Left Durband, Eusofzaie, for Sialkote, 1864. (End of Umbeyla Campaign.)
2	S.	Arrived Bareilly from Kushalgarh, encamping on maidan, 1898. (Form Tochi Field Force), Annual inspection by Major-General Sir W. H. Meiklejohn, Bareilly, 1900.
3	M.	Conclusion of annual inspection, 1900.
4	Tu.	General William Wemyss of Wemyss *d.* Colonel, 1822. Moved into Barracks at Bareilly in relief of Wing, Cameronians, 1898.
5	W.	
6	Th.	
7	F.	Re-embarked, New Orleans, preparatory to returning to England, 1815. Arrived Cawnpore with Hope's Brigade, 1858. Arrived Mian Mir from Umballa, 1894.
8	S.	Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Hyslop, Bart., G.C.B., Colonel 1822. Inter-Company Cricket Tournament, 1900, clock won by "B" Company.
9	S.	Final, Football League, 1897-98. Won by "F" Company.
10	M.	Robert Dale, Lieut.-Col., 1814.
11	Tu.	
12	W.	Wing arrived Unao escorting siege train; Indian Mutiny Campaign, 1858.
13	Th.	Wing arrived Unao escorting siege train, 1858. Annual inspection by Brigadier-General Sir W. H. Meiklejohn, Bareilly, 1899.
14	F.	Embarked H. M. Indian transport *Jumna*, 1870. Annual inspection by Brig.-General Elles, Nowshera, 1896. Conclusion of annual inspection, 1899. Draft from Home arrived Bareilly, 1899.
15	S.	Left Bombay for home 1870; strength 22 officers, 520 non-commissioned officers and men, 49 women, 93 children. Colonel William McBean, V. C., relinquished command, 1878; retired with rank of Honorary Major-General. Annual inspection, Nowshera, 1896.
16	S.	Establishment increased from 750 to 850 rank and file, 1852. William Wallingford Knollys, Lieut.-Colonel, 1878.
17	M.	
18	Tu.	Inter-Company Physical Drill Competition, 1899; won by "C" Company.
19	W.	
20	Th.	Col. Cobert Spark *d.* Elgin, 1852, after 45 years' service in 93rd; Lorenzo Rothe, Lieut.-Colonel. Left jungles of Oudh for Sabathu, 1859. (End of Mutiny Campaign). Right Wing left Bareilly for Shahjahanpur, 1899.
21	F.	Head-quarters party left Bareilly for Ranikhet, 1900.
22	S.	Second party, Bareilly for Ranikhet, 1900.
23	S.	Right Wing arrived Shahjahanpur from Bareilly, 1899.
24	M.	Head-quarter party left Bareilly for Ranikhet, 1901.
25	Tu.	Second party, Bareilly for Ranikhet, 1901.
26	W.	Left Unao for final advance on Lucknow, 1858. Headquarters arrived Ranikhet, 1900.
27	Th.	Embarked at Plymouth on board hired transport *Himalaya* for Malta *en route* for Crimea, 1854. Arrived Sialkot from Umbeyla Campaign, 1854. Rohilcund District Assault-at-Arms, 1899. (First Day). Second party arrived Ranikhet, 1900.
28	F.	Rohilcund District Assault-at-Arms, 1899. (Second Day) Won "Tug-of-War" and "Physical Drill."

———: o :———



REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 4216, Private H. Whyte, "C" Company, and No. 5044, Private J. McMahon, "C" Company, dated 10th December 1901.

To be School Assistant.—No. 5048, Lance-Corporal T. Hamill, "A" Company.

To be Bandsman.—No. 7708, Boy G. Smith, "B" Company.

To be Acting Bandsman.—No. 7991, Boy P. Wilmore, "D" Company.

No. 6259, Private T. Auchinvol, "F" Company.
" 7670, " T. Mullins, "A" "
" 7588, " J. Thomas, "C" "
" 7946, " W. Strain, "B" "

To be Acting Drummer.—No. 8123, Private J. Laird, "B" Company.

To be Acting Piper.—No. 7082, Boy W. Allen, "A" Company.

To be Pioneers.—

No. 7380, Private J. Rennie, "A" Company.
" 5536, " J. Boyd, "C" "
" 8030, " H. Watson, "C" "
" 6020, " J. McMahon, "H" "

To be employed in the Tailors' Shop.

No. 7799, Private A. Moffat, "A" Company.
" 7800, " S. Anderson, "C" "

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To be employed in the Pioneer's shop.

No. 4525, Private R. Scott, "F" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 3d. per diem :—

"C" Company.

No. 3364, Private J. Conway.

At 2d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 5580, Private J. Eccles. | No. 5599, Private R. Johnstone.
No. 5595, Pte. A. McAlpine, | No. 5598, Pte. C. Mitchell.

"B" Company.

No. 4751, Private J. Atherton.

"D" Company.

No. 5618, Lce.-Cpl. A. McMaster. | No. 5597, Pte. A. Kerr.

"F" Company.

No. 4509, Private A. McNeil.

"G" Company.

No. 5620, Lce.-Cpl. F. Ellis. | No. 5589, Lce.-Cpl. J. McLaren.

At 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 7103, Pte. A. Shaw. | No. 5090, Dr. J. Muchan.

"B" Company.

No. 4980, Dr. A. Ferguson. | No. 7165, Pte. S. McKerrow.
„ 7176, Pte. G. Monaghan. | „ 7171, „ T. Vallance.

"C" Company.

No. 7175, Pte. R. J. Gillies. | No. 7202, Pte. D. Haxton.
„ 7170, „ R. McDonald | „ 7159, „ D. McBride.

"D" Company.

No. 5629, Pte. R. Graham. | No. 5971, Pte. W. Brooks.
No. 6951, Private D. C. Macpherson.

"E" Company.

No. 7513, Private H. McLachlan.

"G" Company.

No. 5914, Private A. McPherson.

"H" Company.

No. 6058, Pte. R. Wilson. | No. 5726, Pte. W. Sibbald.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted School of Musketry Certificate—Distinguished (authority G. O. C. C., 1018, dated 18th December 1901)—

No. 3775, Sergeant G. Forbes, "F" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service :—

No. 3378, Corporal F. J. Lynch, "D" Company.

To complete twelve years with the colours :—

No. 7563, Drummer P. Riddock, "E" Company.

TAKEN ON STRENGTH.

The undermentioned N. C. O.'s are transferred from the 1st Black Watch to the 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. They are taken on the strength of the Battalion and transferred to the Supernumerary List from 1st December 1901—

Sergeant J. D. Mathew.	Sergeant J. Clements.
„ W. Burd.	„ R. Parke.
„ W. Charles.	„ S. Simpson.
„ E. J. Cheeseman.	„ H. Mandy.

STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

Embarked for England in S.S. "Assaye" on 23rd November :—

No. 1787, Color-Sergeant W. Bates, wife and children, to Home Establishment.

No. 3054, Bandsman E. Miller—Time-expired 12 years.

No 4782, Private W. Lang—Discharged
„ 6374, „ A. Crawford—Discharged.

Embarked for England in S.S. "Syria" on 2nd December:—

No. 2516, Color-Sergeant J. Hay to Home Establishment.

No. 737, Armourer Sergeant W. Holden.
„ 6076, Private J. Woods—Invalided.

FURLOUGHS TO ENGLAND.

Embarked for England on S.S. "Assaye" on 23rd November :—

No. 2808,	Color-Sergeant	J. Soutar,	"F" Company.
„ 5291,	Lance-Corporal	R. Tawse,	"D" „
„ 5550,	„	F. Risdon,	"F" „
„ 5454,	Private	D. Ritchie,	"E" „

Embarked for England in S.S. "Syria" on 2nd December :—

No. 3077,	Sergeant	C. Johnstone,	"D" Company.
„ 5031,	Private	R. Mackay,	"A" „
„ 4972,	„	J. Keir,	"C" „
„ 4603,	„	D. Brown,	"E" „
„ 4949,	„	J. Chalmers,	"E" „
„ 4651,	„	H. Booth,	"F" „
„ 5297,	„	W. Kirkland,	"G" „
„ 5160,	„	D. Perston,	"H" „

TRANSFERS.

Transferred to the Unattached List for employment as a 2nd Class Sergeant Instructor in the Madras Volunteer Guards with effect from the 5th October 1901 :—

Sergeant William Charles.

Inter-Company :—

No. 7708, Bandsman G. Smith, "B" to "F" Company.
„ 8030, Pioneer H. Watson, "C" to "E" „
„ 7380, „ J. Rennie, "A" to "G" „

NUMBERS ALLOTTED.

The number 8195 to Private J. Laird, "B" Company.
„ „ 8196 „ „ H. A. Cloy, "F" „

ATTAINED 18 YEARS OF AGE.

No. 6582, Boy D. Fraser, "F" Company.

SERVICE RESTORED.

In accordance with paragraph 1842, K. R.

The service forfeited by :—

No. 6346, Private R. McMillan, "G" Company.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

"E" COMPANY.

Best shots of Corporals and Privates :—

				£	s.	d.
No. 5293,	Private	D. Macbean	... ...	0	15	0
„ 6449,	Lce.-Corpl.	E. McElroy	... ...	0	10	0
„ 4630,	Private	G. Duncan	... ...	0	10	0
„ 5551,	„	W. Montgomery	...	0	5	6
„ 5230,	Lce.-Sgt.	D. Yardley	... ...	0	5	6
„ 5021,	Private	G. Duncan	... ...	0	5	6
„ 6461,	Lce.-Corpl.	G. Shanks	... ...	0	5	6
„ 4765,	Private	J. Paterson	... ...	0	4	0
„ 5220,	„	H. Thacker	... ...	0	4	0
„ 4019,	„	T. Berkinshaw	...	0	3	6
„ 4638,	„	A. Bowie	.. ..	0	3	6
„ 5838,	Corporal	C. Fraser ("F" Coy.)		0	3	6
„ 4771,	Private	J. Oliver	... ...	0	3	6
„ 4007,	„	T. Neilson	... ...	0	2	0

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Best Shots of Practices 7 to 12.

			£	s.	d.
No. 4019,	Private	T. Berkinshaw ...	0	3	6
„ 5293,	„	D. Macbean ...	0	3	6
„ 5420,	„	H. Thacker ...	0	3	6
„ 6440,	Lce.-Corpl.	E. McElroy ..	0	2	6
„ 5551,	„ „	W. Montgomery ...	0	2	6
„ 4771,	Private	J. Oliver ..	0	2	6
„ 6213,	„	A. Campbell ...	0	2	0
„ 4007,	„	T. Neilson	0	2	0
„ 4655,	„	J. Walton	0	2	0
„ 4630,	„	G. Duncan	0	1	0
„ 5724,	„	J. Lamb	0	1	0
„ 6461,	Lce.-Corpl.	G. Shanks	0	1	0

Best shot of Sergeants.

No. 2519, Color-Sergeant W. Smith ...	0	13	6

Best shot, No. 6 Practice.

No. 5872, Private T. Campbell	0	6	9

Best Section, Part II, Table B.

No. 7 Section	3	14	3
Section Commander—Sergeant W. Fawcett	0	6	9

Best Section, Company Officers Rounds.

No. 2 Section	2	8	7½
Section Commander—Sergeant D. Blair ...	0	5	4½

"A" Company.

Best Section, Part II, Table B.

No. 1 Section	3	14	11½
Section commander—Color Sergeant Hay ...	0	6	9½

The Draft.

The following non-commissioned officers and men from home have been posted to companies as under:—

No. 4644, Sergeant D. Ritchie to "G" Company.
„ 6538, Corporal T. Memmott "E" „
„ 7163, „ J. Barker "G" „
„ 6863, Drummer T. Riddock "E" „

"A" Company.

No. 7563, Pte. J. Gamble.	No. 7797, Pte. A. Moffat
„ 7848, „ D. Anderson.	„ 7670, „ T. Mullins.
„ 6780, „ W. Broadfoot.	„ 7929, „ G. Patterson.
„ 7780, „ J. Burke.	„ 7380, „ R. J. Rennie.
„ 7221, „ M. Clanahan.	„ 7891, „ W. Smith.
„ 7725, „ J. Cullen.	„ 7938, „ T. Stewart.
„ 7900, „ T. Gallacher.	„ 8011, „ R. Steele.
„ 7613, „ J. Grainger.	„ 7807, „ A. Taylor.
„ 7566, „ J. Jardine.	„ 7149, „ J. White.
„ 7756, „ H. McKellar.	„ 7127, „ J. Beattie
„ 7754, „ R. McLeish.	„ 6207, „ J. Prain.

"B" Company.

No. 7430, Pte. A. Faulds.	No. 7825, Pte. R. Neilson.
„ 7500, „ A. Ballantine.	„ 7987, „ R. Paxton.
„ 7901, „ W. Brown.	„ 7502, „ M. Scott.
„ 7942, „ J. Campbell.	„ 7677, „ D. Reid.
„ 7385, „ D. Clink.	„ 7969, „ J. Stewart.
„ 7713, „ W. Dow.	„ 7936, „ W. Strain.
„ 7897, „ F. Fletcher.	„ 7171, „ T. Vallance.
„ 7701, „ J. Gray.	„ 7675, „ J. Wilson.
„ 7844, „ A. Kiddie	„ 7791, „ W. Aitken.
„ 7998, „ D. McDougall.	„ 7492, „ G. Douglas.
„ 7165, „ S. McKerrow.	„ 7748, „ R. Williamson.
„ 7995, „ J. McMahon.	„ 7830, „ J Drummond.
„ 7796, „ G. Monaghan.	„ 7708, Boy A. Smith.

"C" Company.

No. 7159, Pte. D. McBride.	No. 7858, Pte. C. Morrison.
„ 7800, „ S. Anderson.	„ 7885, „ T. L. Pagon.
„ 3684, „ J. P. Bryan.	„ 7624, „ J. Perrie.
„ 7792, „ J. Campbell.	„ 6782, „ J. Rogan.
„ 7522, „ W. Clarke.	„ 8016, „ J. Stewart.
„ 7835, „ R. Edminston.	„ 7946, „ W. Stewart.
„ 7175, „ R. Gillies.	„ 8007, „ S. Sutherland.
„ 7202, „ D. Haxton.	„ 7583, „ J. Thomas.
„ 8123, „ M. Laird.	„ 7821, „ J. G. Vernon.
„ 7890, „ A. McInnes.	„ 8030, „ W. Watson.
„ 7760, „ C. McKim.	„ 6521, „ W. Moor.
„ 7586, „ C. McMillan.	„ 7170, „ R. McDonald.

"D" Company.

No. 7888, Pte. W. Hilton.	No. 7252, Pte. J. Muir.
„ 7750, „ J. Black.	„ 7499, „ R. Munro.
„ 7427, „ R. Burns.	„ 7926, „ A. Potts.
„ 7650, „ D. Cassidy.	„ 7368, „ W. Sherlaw.
„ 7823, „ J. Craig.	„ 7856, „ G. R. Smith.
„ 7952, „ J. Dickson.	„ 7338, „ T. Stewart.
„ 7647, „ J. Grady.	„ 7651, „ J. Stevenson.
„ 7915, „ J. Hutchison.	„ 7508, „ J. Tennant.
„ 7191, „ J. McCheyne.	„ 7842, „ W. Walker.
„ 7811, „ J. McIntosh.	„ 7959, „ J. Livingston.
„ 7207, „ D. McKenzie.	„ 7737, „ J. Milree.
„ 6051, „ D. C. McPherson.	„ 7991, Boy P. Wilmore.
„ 7867, „ G. Maxwell.	

"E" Company.

No. 7840, Pte. D. McIntosh.	No. 785, Pte. P. McPherson.
No. 7811, Pte. D. McLachlan.	

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Domestic Occurrences.

MARRIAGE.

Paterson—Brettell.—At the Parish Church, Chertsey, on the 12th December, by the Rev. E. Sanderson, Rector of Ockfield, assisted by the Rev. E. Parr, Vicar of Chertsey, Major Stanley Paterson, 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, younger son of D. A. Paterson, J. P., of Dalnaglar and Toinloid, Perthshire, to Constance, only daughter of Richard Brettell, The Grange, Chertsey, Surrey.

: o :

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Major F. M. Aitken	3	0	0
Lieutenant J. B. McPherson	3	0	0
2nd Lieutenant A. N. deV. Scott, 12th K.-I.-Gs.	3	9	0
A. Bruce, Esq., President Glasgow Sutherland Association	3	0	0
Sergeant J. Durnan	9	2	6
„ S. Gurney	4	0	0

: o :

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following papers:—

"The Men of Harlech"	for October.
"The Flash"	„ „
"The St. George's Gazette"	„ „
"The Army Service Corps Journal"	„ November.
"The Yellow Plume"	„ „
"The Globe and Laurel"	„ „
"The Queen's Own Gazette"	„ „
"St. George's Gazette"	„ „
"The Tiger and Rose"	„ „
"The Thistle"	„ „
"The Cawnpore Volunteer Magazine"	„ December
"The London Scottish Gazette"	„ „
"The Suffolk Gazette"	„ „
"The Lillywhites Gazette"	„ „
"The Sapper"	„ „
"The Dragon"	„ „
"The Oakleaf"	„ „
"The Globe and Laurel"	„ „
"The A. S. C. Journal"	„ „
"The Queen's Own Gazette"	„ „
"The Military Mail"	Weekly.
"The Aldershot News"	„
"The Rothesay Express"	„

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NOW READY.
Vol. VI,
THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. Princess Louise's Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 10—Vol. VII. CALCUTTA—FEBRUARY 1902. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE New Year was ushered in with the usual celebrations. The members of the Sergeants' Mess held their usual social gathering, and were visited by Colonel Campbell and the Officers of the battalion just after the stroke of the guard-room gong announced that the Ninety-third had entered on the one hundred and second year of its existence. The band promenaded the barracks for about half-an-hour, playing a "Guid New Year" to everybody; our guests in the Boer Camp being doubtless included in this expression of good will, though it is perhaps needless to state that they were spared the infliction of shaking hands experienced by everyone else in Shahjahanpur—the presence of armed sentries patrolling up and down the barbed wire fence effectually precluded the possibility of indulgence in any such social amenity.

The usual "Proclamation Day" parade took place on New Year's Day. The battalion fired the usual *feu de joie;* then came the march past, after which the parade was dismissed. Dinners were served soon afterwards. The Commanding Officer visited all the companies, his progress through barracks being indicated by the skirling of each company's pipers and a vast amount of cheering. The Company Officers also visited their respective commands, and were received with enthusiasm. A great many healths were pledged, with Highland and other honours, and a general good feeling, so characteristic of our national festival, predominated. The afternoon was given up to merry-making, and passed off quite uneventfully.

* * * * * *

A soirée, organised by our Chaplain, assisted by his energetic helpmate, was held on Hogmanay night. Most of the Officers and several hundred N. C. O.'s and men were present, we believe. A large marquée, erected in the compound of the padre's house, was utilised for the occasion. To the Revd. Mr. Thomson and Mrs. Thomson many thanks are due for the vast amount of trouble they took in getting up so successful an event.

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On the 4th January the Annual Christmas Tree and Entertainment was given to the women and children of the regiment by Colonel Campbell. The proceedings commenced by an elephant ride for the youngsters and any others who cared to indulge in such juvenile pleasures. Tea was provided in the schoolroom, and the wants of the company were attended to by Colonel Campbell, assisted by the Adjutant and other Officers. After tea the company adjourned to the verandah, where some clever feats by a pair of acrobats were seen. A conjuring exhibition followed, and then the distribution of the heavy

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load of toys and other presents, borne by a huge Christmas Tree, was commenced. These were distributed by Colonel Campbell, after which the company separated, well pleased, apparently, with the entertainment provided.

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The Bazaar in connection with the 2nd (Paisley) Volunteer Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, which was held early in December, has been a magnificent success. The total sum required was £5,000, which would clear off a debt of £3,530 on the new drill hall, and leave on hand sufficient funds to provide a new range for the battalion. The Bazaar lasted for four days, and the opening ceremonies were performed by Lieutenant-General Sir A. Hunter, Commanding Scottish District; Colonel P. D. Trotter, Commanding, 91st Regimental District; Sir William Dunn, Bart., M.P., and Mr. C. Bine Renshaw, M. P.

Colonel Sir Thomas Glen Coats, Bart., and the Officers of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion must feel highly pleased on the success of their enterprise, as the drawings for the four days showed a surplus of £1,645 more than what was aimed at. The total drawings amounted to £6,645. The Duke of Argyll, on behalf of Princess Louise, and General Sir Archibald Hunter, have sent letters of congratulations on the result.

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The Revd. Mr. Thomson preached his farewell sermon to the battalion on Sunday, 19th January. Mr. Thomson, who has received orders to rejoin his old corps, the 92nd Gordon Highlanders, came to the 93rd nearly two years ago on the departure of the Revd. John Cameron. We are extremely sorry to lose Mr. and Mrs. Thomson out of the battalion, and we hope that their future will be attended with much prosperity.

A constant change of chaplains seems to be a necessary evil in India, as during the last five years we have had no less than five padres, one of whom, the Revd. Mr. Gillan, late Chaplain of the 42nd Highlanders, and well-known to the battalion, is to succeed Mr. Thomson.

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The annual inspection of the battalion took place at Shahjahanpur on Tuesday, 21st January. The inspection was almost of the nature of a surprise, as only a couple of days' notice was given, consequently a large amount of what is vulgarly known as "fizzing," which is usual on such a highly important occasion, was conspicuous by its absence. The Inspecting Officer, Brigadier-General G. H. More-Molyneux, C. B., D. S. O., arrived on the parade ground at 10-15 A.M., where the battalion was drawn up in line (dress drill order, khaki), and was received with the usual general salute. Then followed some battalion drill by the Captains, after which we were formed up in quarter-column and the General made some remarks on the good behaviour of the battalion during the past year. He said that he was very sorry to lose us out of his command, and wished us good-bye and a very pleasant time in Calcutta. The speech was very kind, and the references to the distinguished past career of the regiment were highly acceptable to all ranks. Though we did not know our new General very well, the memory of his kind remarks will long be remembered in the battalion. Inspection of books followed the parade, then the Officers were seen at revolver practice. A walk round the barracks and Institutes followed, and then General's Inspection was over for another year.

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The Devonshire Regiment—the heroes of the desperate struggle at Wagon Hill during the siege of Ladysmith—arrived in Shahjahanpur, in relief, on the 25th January. The Regiment came in by wings, one wing arriving about 8 A.M., and the other two hours later. Our Band, Drums and Pipes played both parties from the railway station to barracks, and all the remainder of the battalion who could spare the time off fatigue turned out to welcome our war-worn old friends of Chirat and Peshawar days. They presented a fine appearance indeed, though, to our eyes, accustomed to the sealed pattern garb of peaceful soldiering in cantonments, their dress seemed somewhat cosmopolitan. Every variety of rifle and carbine and articles of equipment, and every shade and pattern of khaki and other descriptions of uniform were possessed by them. What struck one most of all, perhaps, was the large number of old faces that beamed from their ranks—a sight that one scarcely expected to see, considering the campaigning experiences the Devons have passed though since we saw them last during the field-firing at Nowshera in 1897, just before the Frontier Campaign commenced. It appears that a large number of the men extended their service in South Africa—a fact which must be highly gratifying to the Officers of so fine a battalion. Many old friendships were renewed on the night of arrival, and many more were formed, thus further cementing the friendly feeling which has always existed between the two regiments.

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The battalion left Shahjahanpur for Calcutta in two trains on Tuesday, the 28th January. The first train, which carried headquarters and "A," "B," "D" and "E" Companies, under Lieut.-Colonel Campbell, left at 2 P. M., and was followed two hours later by "C," "F," "G" and "H" Companies, under Captain Tweedie. The band of the Devons played both parties to the station, and "Auld Lang Syne" when the trains were leaving. No doubt many of us felt just a touch of regret at leaving such a pretty little station, but the desire for a change of scene was probably greater. The memory of the many guards and other duties which the presence of the inhabitants

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of the "barbed wire" colony necessitated was no doubt the principal cause of the universal desire for a new station. The journey was performed in two days, a halt for a few hours only being made at Dinapore for what was to most persons the only meal of the journey. Calcutta was reached on Thursday about midday, and the battalion soon settled down to the routine of life in Fort William.

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Captain R. B. Graham has passed in the Lower Standard Examination in Persian: authority, Bengal C. O. 71 of 1902.

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2nd-Lieutenant R. D. Falconer-Stewart took over command and pay of "E" Company from Captain D. Darroch on 25th January. Captain Darroch is away home on leave for nine months.

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An order has been received directing the battalion to furnish a draft of 4 Sergeants, 6 Corporals, and 140 Privates to join the First Battalion in South Africa. We should have been better pleased had the powers that be seen fit to order the whole battalion to South Africa in relief of the Ninety-First, who have had their full measure of the hardships and trials of the present campaign. The battalion was never more fit than it is at the present time. Fresh from a four-years' residence in the hills, it is, without doubt, in a most perfect state, both as regards health and general efficiency, though whether it will be the same in another two years' time, after experiencing a stewed-up hole like Fort William, is a matter of doubtful conjecture.

The draft will probably leave about the middle of February, as it is due to sail from Bombay about the beginning of March. The vacancies caused by the transfer of such a large number of men will be filled up by a draft of the same strength from South Africa.

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The result of the examination held last October of candidates for first class educational certificates has been published, and we are pleased to see that the efforts of our late School Master, Mr. Gover, have been attended with so much good fortune. It must be extremely gratifying to him to know that his labours have not been in vain, and that his last success as School Master of the Ninety-Third was probably the best of a long series of such achievements.

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Sergeant-Major Ditcham, who had only landed at Bombay a few days previously, joined the battalion on arrival at Fort William We take this opportunity of congratulating our new Sergeant-Major, and trust that he will find life as pleasant in his new appointment as he says he found it with the Volunteers. The following appreciation of Sergeant-Major Ditcham's services in his late appointment is by a writer in the "Town Talk" columns of the *Paisley and Renfrewshire Gazette*:—

"Not for some years have so many changes in so short a time taken place in the working staff of our local Volunteers. They got a new Sergeant-Major last year, who promised by his work and enthusiasm to leave his mark on the discipline of the regiment, but no sooner had he got thoroughly settled down to his new round of duties than he has been transferred back to India. His promotion to the Sergeant-Majorship of the 2nd Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders is thoroughly deserved, and his friends in Paisley look for further promotion before his time is up."

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The following is from the same paper:—

Presentation.—Sergeant-Major Harry Ditcham, who occupied the post of Sergeant-Major of the 2nd Renfrew during last drill season, was the recipient, on Monday night, of a handsome gold-mounted walking stick and a silver cigarette case from the members of the Sergeants' Mess at headquarters. Sergeant Musketry Instructor R. Lee occupied the chair, and Color-Sergeant Brough made the presentation. Sergeant-Major Ditcham came from India last year to fill the vacancy caused by the retiral of the former acting Sergeant-Major, but promotions taking place in the 2nd Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, he has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant-Major, a promotion which carries with it the rank of warrant officer. He made many friends during the short time he was in the 2nd Renfrew, many of whom will be glad to hear of his promotion to Sergeant-Major of the old 93rd Highlanders (the "Thin Red Line"). He left Southampton yesterday per SS. "Assaye," and his further career will be watched by his friends in Paisley

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The latest thing in Army Reform is an order from Army Headquarters directing that in future men with false teeth will be considered eligible for enlistment. A tooth brush, costing three pence three farthings, to form part of Tommy's kit, is another effort to popularise the Army.

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The Presidency District Assault-at-Arms was held on the Calcutta Race Course on the 30th and 31st January and 1st February Beyond furnishing a large picquet on the 2nd and 3rd days, the battalion had no connection with this interesting event. There was no time of course to train teams after we arrived in Calcutta, or no doubt the regiment would have been fully represented in the various competitions. Some fine displays of horsemanship by sowars of H. E. the Viceroy's Bodyguard were seen. What interested as much as anything were the displays given by the Calcutta Light Horse, who are certainly, if the members of the corps present at the Assault-at-Arms are to be

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taken as types, quite the smartest body of Light Horse we have ever seen. The Musical Ride by them on the 2nd and 3rd days was well executed; and, as an example of their steadiness on parade, speaks volumes for the efficiency of the corps. The Torch Light Tattoo, which concluded the events on Friday and Saturday, was well carried out, and reflects the highest credit on the inventive genius who planned the many intricate movements witnessed.

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Scenes Through the Battle Smoke.

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A TRUE INCIDENT OF THE WAR.

AVENGING MAJUBA.

ON the morning of the 28th November 1899, ere the sun appeared above the horizon, we were marching on Modder River.

The artillery thundered at the Boer position, advancing by short stages. The enemy's shells flew about us like hail, but chiefly over us. The infantry, advancing, got within the range of the enemy's shells and, soon after, found themselves in range of their rifle fire. Then gaps appeared in the firing line, filled as necessary by supports. As we advanced, so the gaps increased, and as the supports became absorbed in the firing line, the reserves closed up.

The Argyles, on the left flank, came in for a fair share of lead, probably the kilt with the khaki apron presenting a better target than the full khaki worn by other regiments. It will be remembered that 450 R. E. came up on the extreme left, and were in touch with the Argyles, being ordered up by Lord Methuen.

"Ah!" ejaculated Jock to Tam, his comrade, thet's ane clean through ma water bottle."

"For heaven's sake plug the hole up," shouted Tam.

"A'm parched, and mine's empty!"

They were firing, lying down, and Jock, with commendable presence of mind, moistened some ammunition paper, with which he effectually stopped the leakage.

None but those who took part in that memorable march on the Modder can realise the agonies of thirst experienced by most of the troops. When we struck the river it must have dropped a foot, so ravenous were we for water. But I am digressing. The signal was given to advance, at the double, to a depression we could see in the ground some sixty yards ahead, and we settled down to another fusillade on the invisible foe, although we could very plainly see their position, marked by clumps of trees, on the banks of the river

"Jock," shouts Tam, "A gat ane through ma haversack in that last advance," and sure enough a bullet had pierced Tam's haversack and a tin of bouille beef inside.

"Plug the holes up," said Jock, sarcastically. "We shall be hungry before we reach the river A'm thinkin!"

Tam, turning, gave Jock a quizzical look, but went on with his firing.

Again the advance was signalled at the double, but before 20 yards were covered, up went poor Tam's arms with a shout, and,—down he fell on his back. Jock was by his side in a flash.

"Ah! Jock!" gasped Tam, faintly, "Ye canna plug this hole up," and Tam laid his hand over his heaving chest.

Jock whipped out his field dressing, and did his level best to staunch the red stream flowing from the wound.

"Tam, what can A de for ye, ma old chum, what can A de?"

"Water," whispers Tam, pointing to his lips.

Tam's water bottle was empty, but Jock had a drop left, which he applied to his dying comrade's parched lips.

And now Jock knelt closer to catch the last words of his comrade, as he whispered: "Mother! Mary! Ma poor bairns!" "Yes, Tam; anything else?" And Tam, with his last breath, gasped out very distinctly:—"Awa, Jock, and help avenge Majuba!" and his spirit fled, with many others, on that November morning.

Jock left his dead comrade, and with tears rolling down his dust-stained cheeks, skipped the space to his unit, in the firing line, with the agility of a springbok.

The battle was at its zenith. It seemed as if a terrible thunderstorm had broken over us, and now as we closed in, the river came in sight. The blending together of "Long Toms," creusots, maxims, mausers, pom-poms, and Lee-Metfords, at close range, was, at this point, deafening. The last advance was the usual bayonet charge—to the river's edge, then to ford the river, or swim it.

We reached the north bank in time to see the enemy flying in all directions, and suddenly the din of battle ceased.

* * * *

"And what of Jock?" I hear you ask.

Jock had, so far, escaped without a scratch, and his company, after piling arms, were enjoying a well-earned rest, as the sun was sinking in the west.

Jock had been anxious to carry out Tam's wish—with the bayonet. There's more satisfaction in this than continually firing at an invisible foe, so, in a measure, he regretted that the battle was over, as he sorrowfully thought of poor Tam lying out on the veldt yonder—dead!

The sun was disappearing, just a glimpse being visible above the horizon, when we all started to our feet at the sound of rifle shots, and here and there a man was seen to fall. The firing came

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from a square, flat-roofed building, about a quarter of a mile to the north-east. Jock's company being nearest received the order, "Fix bayonets! Advance!" When within 50 yards the order was given to "Charge!"

Jock was foremost in that charge. He, with the help of his comrades, who were close on his heels, burst open the door.

"Mercy! Mercy!" shrieked a number of Boers in English.

"Now," flashed through Jock's mind, "is the time to carry out Tam's dying behest." He got his bayonet to work, his mates following his example, and, with each thrust, Jock yelled out:—"Majuba ya diels! Majuba!! Majuba!!!" And the last Boer fell to the cry of "Majuba!"

GEO. TILFORD, *C. S.M., R.E., in the Sapper.*

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With our Allies in China, 1900-01.

—o—

WELL, Mr. Editor, since you ask me for a few of my experiences in the land of the pigtails, I will try and give you a faithful account of the same, but I am afraid your readers have read more than I can possibly tell them.

As you know I arrived in China rather late for the active operations. Leaving Calcutta on the 8th October on board the transport "City of Cambridge." I had a very fine voyage, and arrived at Takubar on the 5th November. Taku at this time was a sight worth seeing Warships of every nationality, at least twenty of each I should say, were there. I don't know which flag predominated, as for a good ten miles around there was nothing but transports and warships to be seen, and it was simply impossible to count them.

We disembarked at Sinho, and proceeded from there to Tientsin by railway. A railway battalion of Russians were in charge of the line there, so you can imagine we got scant courtesy from them. By the way that was a useful unit we didn't possess in the Far East, and the *foreigners* distinctly scored a peg off us there, because the line was the property of British shareholders, and when the trouble started it was placed under martial law, and the Russians were the first there with a railway battalion. Had the nations been fighting for territory then, I guess the Bear would have been No. 1 at that particular point. Well we arrived in Tientsin. I say we, the party consisting of a Captain, Lieutenant, and eighteen Sergeants of the Commissariat Department. We were intended to form the staff of an advanced supply depôt, but as the railway was completed before the authorities expected the depôt was not required, so we were kept in Tientsin, the majority at any rate, I'm sorry to say.

Tientsin, when we arrived, was an interesting sight. The whole town, and especially the railway station, was in ruins within a half mile radius of the railway station. I should think it must have been impossible for any human or living thing to have existed during the bombardment. The place was literally riddled by shrapnell and musketry fire. I visited the spot where 600 Russians were killed by Boxer gun fire. The remains were still there—old uniforms, rifles, &c. The Japanese also lost very heavily, as they follow the continental fashion and fight in close order. I was told by a chap who was on the spot at the time that a Russian battalion, 1,200 strong, was only occupying about 500 yds. square of ground, so you can imagine what shell fire would do there; they were simply smashed up. The French part of Tientsin also suffered severely from Boxer fire, their post being the nearest to the native part of the city, but of course you have read the accounts of the fighting there, written by professionals, so I will now tell you what I thought of the Allied Troops.

First of all I will deal with the Japs—as good little fighting men as one would wish to meet, but meriting the character we once bore of being too rash. They seem to have no fear, and just charge in the attack as we did in Tel-el-kebir days, and after all, Mr. Editor, I am inclined to the opinion that it is the cheapest way, eh! They are very smart, jolly good soldiers, and most courteous to us, as they have a tremendous respect for Britain and everything British.

Next on the roll I consider are the troops of Germany and Italy. The Germans are an extremely well drilled and disciplined lot of soldiers—pull the string and the figure moves sort of style. They are deeply imbued with the spirit of the fatherland, their Kaiser and the fatherland coming first and everything else nowhere. Esprit-de-corps is a strong feature with them, and I think they would be an extremely ugly lot to tackle. A lot of their customs would scarcely suit our army, however. They salute all non-coms the same as they would their Commander-in-Chief. We British Non-Commissioned Officers were saluted all over the shop, and of course were rather slack at returning the same. You know the old prejudice, or, perhaps, I should say the modesty of the British soldier in accepting a salute to which he is not entitled, but do you know I rather think that got us disliked, as the continental people thought we were ignoring them. They do it out of pure discipline and courtesy as well. The German Officers are very smart, and the non-coms the same. One never sees them without their everlasting Jack-boots, spurs, and long cavalry sword. And, to tell the plain truth, they did *hate* us. The Italians had a very small force in North China; only a regiment of Bersagliera Infantry,

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a Battery of Artillery and a few sailors. They were a fine, well set up set of men, especially the sailors. I have heard a lot of people say the Italian sailors were the men of the best physique out there. They were very quiet, but I suppose it was on account of the fewness of numbers of their quota to the allied army. They were very sociable with us.

The Tientsinites say the Russians saved them all from being killed. A small force of Cossacks was sent down from Port Arthur on the first alarm, and when Tientsin was besieged they did invaluable work in scouring round outside the outer defences at night, and cutting up any venturesome party of Boxers they came across. Brave, daring fellows they were. Mounted on little shaggy ponies, and carrying nothing but a lance and rifle (no grub even); they are an extremely mobile lot; but, ugh, so dirty and greasy. The Infantry and Artillery seemed a very serviceable lot. They did not appear to have any transport, except an old degschai mounted on a galloping carriage with one pony. They have to forage for all they get outside of a loaf of black bread and some tea, and it is "only a dream" they don't forage too. A private's pay is one rouble for two months,—about Re. 1-8-0 I believe. I once marched in the track of four companies of Russian Infantry and I never saw such a state of desolation; there was nothing living left along the line of their advance—the proper way to war I say, and a month or two of which at the commencement of the war would have settled the Boer's hash. The Russian senior officers are great swells, but the juniors in the Infantry appeared to us much the same as a new made Lance-Corporal.

Regarding the French I cannot say much. You will doubtless have read some of their criticisms of our Indian Army, and seen the answers to them too. The statements made in answer to the French critics are about correct from what I myself observed. The French hate us worse than any Pathan, and the feeling seems actuated by jealousy more than anything else. It was very amusing sometimes when passing one of their sentries (this was after the various rows we had with them) to see him scowl, bump the butt of his rifle on the ground, and mutter something about *le bas Anglais*. I don't know French, but it was not very complimentary by the way they said it. But I am afraid if I told you what I thought of them I should cause a war, so *Franscais, Au revoir*.

The British contingent had a very good "assault-at-arms" in Pekin while I was there. The principal items of interest appeared to be the tug-o'-war, tent-pegging, and the trick riding of the Native Cavalry; and I might add the driving of "B" Battery, Royal Horse Artillery. It made one feel proud to be British-born to look at the latter handling their teams. The Staff Sergeants from Tientsin had a tug-o'-war team there; your humble servant was one of the team, and after getting a bye in the first round they pulled over the balloon section of the R. E, but were eventually duffed by the R. H. A., who had a splendid team. The "Royal Horse" team was never pulled over by anyone there, so our defeat was not a disgrace. As the General said, it would not have done for a mixed team of Sergeants to pull over a team of the right of the line of the British army. Field Marshal Count Von Waldersee seemed very much struck by the riding and driving of our Horse Artillery, and had a special gallop by them for the benefit of himself and staff the next day. We had a French band and the band of the Hong-kong Regiment one day, and a German band and Beluchi band and Pipers the next. Some of the German bands are very fine. The riding of the native sowars (trick riding) created great enthusiasm amongst the Yankees. Oh, by-the-bye, I do not think I passed my opinion of the Yanks. I beg their pardon.

The prettiest sight I think I ever saw was 100 American Transport wagons, a battery of Artillery and the 6th U. S. Cavalry march into Tientsin from Pekin on their way to Tongku for embarkation to the Phillipines. The column was, well, I do not quite know how long. But the four-in-hand transport wagons with their picturesque teamsters (the backwoodsman, as you see him depicted in the penny horrible), the Cavalry splendidly mounted with their Mexican saddles, and the Artillery looking very workmanlike, made as fine a picture as one could ever wish to see. I heard some of our fellows talking about the American Infantry in not very complimentary terms. In the attack on Tientsin they were supposed to lag a bit, and say—"I guess I am not going to be shot by a G—d—chink, let the G—d—Britishers come along;" but of course I should not like to vouch for this. I always found them jolly good chaps, but rather too handy with their G—d—gun, as they call it. They always carried a Colt's revolver in a hip pocket, and were not in the least shy of using it either. The following incident occurred in the now famous Taku road. A team of American mules and a transport wagon was proceeding down the road (in charge of one of the before-mentioned teamsters), and a German officer, pompous as usual, wanting to cross the road in a hurry, pushed the leader's heads on one side to get by. The teamster promptly shot him through the helmet, and exclaimed: "I guess you won't interfere with my G—d—team again, you bally squarehead." Of course there was a row about it, but the "Yanks" did not apologise, and upheld their man. If it had

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been a British soldier there would have been apologies flying about all over the place, but of course the Yanks are noted for their independent spirit, and, on the quiet, I shouldn't care for Britain to put too much reliance on them in time of need. But there, I'm going into politics, which is not required.

Another contingent I forgot to mention is our loyal colonists (loyalty at the rate of seven shillings and sixpence a day). The Victorian Naval Contingent was the only Australasian contingent I had the privilege of lying with for any length of time. Well, all I can say is, that seven shillings and sixpence a day was buying them. Loyalty at that price I consider good business from what I saw. There was lots of loot to be had when the allies took Pekin I believe, but your humble was late as usual to share the spoil.

There is no use of me talking about bloodthirsty engagements, *etc.*, for I never saw any, nor of giving you elaborate descriptions of the royal palaces in Pekin, for you have doubtless read more about them than I can tell you. I was in the Forbidden City by special permit, but the place had been more or less dismantled by the Yanks, who had charge of that part of the town.

I saw Mr. Nigel Oliphant, late of the regiment, but I did not recognise him in time to speak to him. Oh, I saw the now world-famed British Legation as it was when the Allies relieved the defenders, and, honestly, I believe I could have taken it with a section, at the most a company. The Boxers were right up under the walls, which were only about 20 feet high with a few sandbags on top. I think there must have been some outside influence at work with the Boxers, or they could not have helped taking it.

I was ordered to return to India in October, and did so safely after ten months enjoyable campaigning.

ONE OF THE ALLIES.

"AS PER USUAL"

—o—

DE WET, the very elusive Boer commander, sometime back reached the penny-puzzle stage of popularity at home. Says a purchaser of one of these "puzzle" cards from an itinerant vendor—

"On it was an outline of the territory lately ruled by Mr. Kruger with the wording: 'This is the Transvaal; find De Wet.'

"I turned the card about, but could discover no outline suggestive of the eel-like Boer general. Then I applied to the vendor for information. With a grin he answered—

"'Yer can't find De Wet, guvinor? No more can't nobody else find 'im! 'E ain't there; 'e's sloped, as per usual. Now, ain't the sell worth a penny?'"

Marriage of Major Stanley Paterson.

—o—

On Thursday week the marriage was celebrated at Chertsey Parish Church, Surrey, between Miss Constance Brettell, of the Grange, Chertsey, and Major Stanley Paterson of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, second son of Mr. D. A. Paterson of Dalnaglar, Glenshee, and Tomloid, Strathardle.

The Major, who is well known and highly respected in the Glen, is a general favourite among all the servants on Dalnaglar estate, and is widely known as a keen sportsman and an explorer. He is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical and other learned societies, and has done yeoman service to his country all over the world.

Owing to the much-regretted illness of the bride's father, the wedding was of a very quiet description. The ceremony was performed by Rev. E. Sanderson, assisted by Rev. E. R. Parr, Vicar of Chertsey. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. Norman Brettell, and she presented a charming appearance in a beautiful dress of rich white satin, with garniture of lace, fastened with bouquets of orange blossom. The corsage was draped with satin and lace and there were transparent sleeves of point d'esprets. Her veil was of rich Honiton lace. Her ornaments were pearls, while the handsome bouquet she was carrying was of Madonna lilies and lilies of the valley, with sprigs of white heather and orange blossoms.

The bridesmaid was Miss B. L. Sanderson, whose dress was of white crêpe de chine with insertions of cream-coloured lace and knot of blue panne on bodice. She carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley and pink roses, and wore a gold bracelet with gold heart pendant, set with sapphires, the gifts of the bridegroom.

The best man was Mr. B. A. Harvey, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

The service was fully choral. Mr. F. Monk being at the organ, and playing Lohengrin's Wedding March as the bridal party left the church. The hymns were "O Perfect Love" and "Gracious Spirit."

There was no reception under the circumstances, and the guests comprised only the immediate relations.

The bride's travelling dress was of blue pastel cloth, trimmed with silver braid, with undervest of lace and silver, and small coatee to match. She wore a large black picture hat and a large dark blue travelling coat with collar and cuff of stitched black panne.

The bride and bridegroom have the heartiest good wishes of the residents of the neighbourhood, and under ordinary circumstances, the Parish church would probably have been crowded.

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Major Paterson left with his wife on Thursday for India to join his regiment, and will not likely be home for a few years.

The presents were numerous and handsome. The bridegroom's presents to the bride were a diamond and sapphire ring, diamond tiara, and a Pekin cloissone box; and the bride's to the bridegroom a silver toilette set. Among other presents to the bride were:—Mr. and Mrs. and the Messrs. Brettell, string of pearls; Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Paterson, silver tea service; Mrs. D. A. Paterson, cushion; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Paterson, silver entrée dishes; Miss Paterson, silver teaspoons and tongs. Master Hugh and the Misses Winifred and Kathleen Paterson, silver lamp; Mr. and Mrs. Harmood Banner, diamond and sapphire ring; The Misses Banner, miniature. Among the bridegroom's presents were—Mr. and Mrs. Brettell; ·450 cordite express rifle; Mr. D. A. Paterson, cheque; Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Paterson, silver coffee service, fish knives and forks, fruit service, bon-bon dish-salver, silver mounted oak tray and crumb scoop; Miss Paterson, tea-spoons; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Paterson, dressing bag: gardeners at Clermiston, Midlothian, silver toast rack.

From a Perthshire Paper.

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Paisley Volunteers.

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THE first three of the Volunteer battalions of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders are Renfrewshire regiments, and Renfrew played an early and important part in the great Volunteer movement of 1859-60. Renfrew, indeed, ranks fourteenth amongst the ninety-five counties of England and Scotland in Volunteer precedence, and the three regiments named are senior to all Scottish Volunteer corps, with the exception of the Edinburgh regiments, which form Volunteer units of the Royal Scots. The 2nd Renfrewshire (now the 2nd V. B. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders), the one with which we are here concerned, dates from 1859, and has from its inception had a distinguished record for soldierly smartness and efficiency. The headquarters of the battalion are Paisley, where in 1865 a property in the High Street was acquired for the site of a drill hall, but two years ago it was found inadequate to meet the growing requirements of the battalion, and accordingly a new building, comprising drill hall, gymnasium, Morris tube range, lecture and recreation rooms, and all the necessary offices and stores was erected, at a cost of £10,500. No less than £7,000 of this amount was subscribed by patriotic and generous donors, both within and outside the corps, but a debt of £3,500 greatly hampered the work of the battalion. To clear off this debt, as well as to have a fund in hand to provide for a much-needed new rifle range, the old one being neither safe to the public nor suitable to the battalion, it was determined to hold a bazar which should realise £5,000. This was fixed for last December, but, owing to the demands on the generosity of the public occasioned by the war, it has only now been held, the opening ceremony being performed by Sir Archibald Hunter, who commands in Scotland. To his presence and the untiring efforts of Sir Thomas Glen-Coats, and the Officers and Men of the battalion, the bazar owes the success that has attended it. Sir Thomas Glen-Coats, who commands, is as keen a soldier as he is a sportsman, and has been Lieutenant-colonel of the battalion since 1887.—"Navy and Army Illustrated."

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The late Captain Losack.

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CAPTAIN Charles Warner Losack, late 93rd Highlanders, died deeply regretted, after only a week's illness on 26th December, at his residence, Srinagar, Kashmir. Messages of sympathy were sent from the battalion, and were acknowledged by Mrs. Losack. The deceased officer's record of service, according to Burgoyne's "Records," is as follows:—

Charles Warner Losack—Ensign, 1st March 1855; Lieutenant, 27th July 1855; served with the regiment during the Indian Mutiny; was present at the action of Kudjwa, relief of Lucknow by Lord Clyde, defeat of the Gwalior Contingent at Cawnpore, and pursuit to Serai Ghat, affair of the Kala Nuddee; siege of Lucknow; Rohilkhand Compaign to the battle of Bareilly; became Captain, 29th November 1864, and retired from the Army in 1868. He was in possession of the Indian Medal with two clasps.

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The Annual Games.

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AFTER being once or twice postponed the games arranged for the battalion eventually came off on Friday and Saturday, 17th and 18th January. The sports ground was the *maidan* south of the Muttee Barracks, where the Wing sports were held in 1899, and a better site could hardly have been chosen. The ground was marked out by flags, the running course being about four laps to the mile, a most convenient arrangement, whilst within this enclosure the other events were decided. The working committee, on whom devolved the by no means inconsiderable task of preparing the ground, consisted of Captain Darroch as president, and Captain and Adjutant Campbell, Lieutenant Thomson and Lieutenant and Quartermaster Lundie as members, who were assisted

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by a sub-committee consisting of the following non-commissioned officers Color-Sergeant Gilmour, Sergeants Arnott, Lockie, Ogg, Snowdon, Ballantine, Watson and Corporal Hudghton.

The programme which follows gives all the events and necessary details, so it is thus unnecessary to particularise to any extent. A new feature in this year's games was the division of popular competitions into two separate events, one for novices (*i.e.*, men who had never won a first or second prize in the particular event) and one for all comers. Most of the racing events were treated thus, also hammer throwing and putting the shot. The innovation was attended with complete success, and gave an additional interest to the games.

Certainly the best and most exciting race was that between Mossman and McArthur on the second day in the three, mile-race. McArthur is comparatively speaking a new man, and though he showed up well in all the events he entered for on both days, very few of the battalion expected to see him beat an old veteran like Mossman. It is but fair to add that McArthur only beat him by about six inches, a very close finish indeed for a three mile race. We admired the sportsmanlike way in which Mossman shook hands with McArthur, and congratulated him after the event. It showed a proper feeling, which we fear is not always the rule with some of the sporting men of the battalion on like occasions.

The hammer throwing was better this year than ever, though there was little difference observed in putting the shot. The light hammer and light shot were reserved for novices. Lance-Corporal Darwood won the light hammer in fine style, with a splendid throw of 109 feet 6 inches, and was second only to H. Allan with the heavy hammer. Allan improved on all his previous performances with a fine throw of 103 feet 6 inches.

Mrs. Paterson, wife of our popular second-in-command, made her first appearance in regimental life at the games, and at the conclusion of the second day's events kindly presented the prizes to the winners.

PROGRAMME.

FRIDAY, 17TH JANUARY.

THROWING LIGHT HAMMER (NOVICES) (15-4).

Lce.-Corpl. Darwood, "C," 109 ft. 6 in.	...	1
Private Scott, "H," 108 ft. 2 in.	...	2
" Burns, "H," 107 ft. 8 in.	...	3

THROWING CRICKET BALL.

Private McFarlane, "E"	...	1
" Crawford, "D"	...	2
" McLennan, "H"	...	3

HOP, STEP AND JUMP.

Private Hogg, "C"	...	1
" McDonald, "C"	...	2
" McCheyne, "D"	...	3

220 YARDS RACE (HANDICAP).

Private Mossman, "B"	...	1
" Cairns, "D"	...	2
" McMillan, "G"	...	3

100 YARDS RACE (NOVICES).

Private Hogg, "C"	...	1
" Muir, "F"	...	2
Lce.-Corpl. Bracey, "F"	...	3

PUTTING LIGHT SHOT (NOVICES) (16 lbs.).

Private Crawford, "D" (29 ft. 11 in).	...	1
" Gibson, "C" (28 ft. 10½ in).	...	2
Lce.-Corpl. Darwood, "C" (28 ft. 10½ in).	...	3

HALF-MILE RACE (HANDICAP).

Private Mossman, "B"	...	1
" McArthur, "H"	...	2
" McArthur, "G"	...	3

HIGH KICK.

Private Edwards, "D"	...	1

N.-C. O.'s RACE (220 YARDS).

Corporal Hudghton, "A"	...	1
Lce.-Corpl. Bracey, "F"	...	2
" " Darwood, "C"	...	3

MILE RACE (NOVICES).

Private McArthur, "G"	...	1
" McArthur, "H"	...	2
" Muir "F"	...	3

POLE JUMP.

Private Scott, "H"	...	1
" Reid, "F"	...	2

THREE-LEGGED RACE.

Privates Cairns and Monteith, "D"	...	1
" McArthur and Maslin, "G"	...	2

1,000 YARDS RACE.

Private Mossman, "B"	...	1
" McArthur, "H"	...	2
" Comrie, "H"	...	3

WRESTLING.

Private W. Allan, "B"	...	1
" McNiff, "H"	...	2

OLD SOLDIERS' RACE.

Private Reid. "F"	...	1
Corporal McInnes, "B"	...	2
Bandsman Ogden, "E"	...	3

SATURDAY, 18TH JANUARY.

PUTTING HEAVY SHOT (24-4).

Corporal McInnes, "B" (26 ft. 1 in).	...	1
Private French, "C" (25 ft. 2½ in.)	...	2
" Crawford, "D" (24 ft. 8 in.)	...	3

100 YARDS RACE.

Private Mossman, "B"	...	1
" Cairns, "D"	...	2

THROWING HEAVY HAMMER (16 lbs.).

Private H. Allan, "A" (103 ft. 6 in.)	...	1
Lce.-Corpl. Darwood, "C" (99 ft.)	...	2
Corporal McInnes "B" (97 ft. 9½ in)	...	3

Corporal McInnes and Private Scott, "H" Coy., tied for 3rd place, the former gaining a place with a throw of 100 feet 7½ inches.

LONG JUMP.

Private Hogg, "C" (18 ft. 4 in.)	...	1
" McDonald "C" (17 ft. 5 in.)	...	2
" Cairns, "D" (17 ft. 1 in.)	...	3

QUARTER-MILE RACE.

Private Mossman, "B"	...	1
" Comrie, "H"	...	2

TOSSING THE CABER.

Private Reid, "F"	...	Tied for 1st place.
Scott, "H"	...	

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HURDLE RACE.

Private Hogg,	"C"	...	1
„ Cairns	"C"	...	2
„ Edwards	"D"	...	3

PIPE PLAYING (MARCH STRATHSPEY AND REEL).

Piper Finlayson,	"D"	...	1
Act. Piper, Macgillivray,	"E"	...	2
Corporal Lynch,	"D"	...	3

MILE RACE.

Private McArthur,	"H"	...	1
„ Comrie,	"H"	...	2

HIGH JUMP.

Private Edwards,	"D" (5 ft. 4 in.)	...	1
„ McDonald,	"C" (5 ft 3 in.)	...	2

HIGHLAND FLING.

Corporal Lynch,	"D"	...	1
Piper Finlayson,	"D"	...	2
„ McLean,	"B"	...	3

EGG AND SPOON RACE (MEMBERS OF A. T. A.).

Private Pollock,	"D"	...	1
„ Cairns,	"D"	...	2
„ Smith,	"B"	...	3

BEST DRESSED HIGHLANDER.

Private Fogg,	"G"	...	1
„ McIntosh,	"C"	...	2

SWORD DANCE (GILLE CALLUM).

Corporal Lynch,	"D"	...	1
Drummer Cridland,	"D"	...	2
Piper Finlayson,	"D"	...	3

THREE-MILE RACE.

Private McArthur,	"G"	...	1
„ Mossman,	"B"	...	2

REEL DANCING (COY. SETS).

"D" Company	...	...	1
"G" „	...	...	2

TUG-O'-WAR (HALF BATTALIONS).

Right Half Battalion 1

TEAM.—Corporal McInnes, Privates Ferguson, French, Brown, Anderson, Campbell, Scott, Maloney H Allan, W. Allan.

PIPE PLAYING (FOR YOUNG PIPERS ONLY).

Boy R. S. Gunn, "A" Company 1

OFFICERS' RACE.

Captain Tweedie	...	...	1
Lieutenant Muirhead	...	...	2
Captain Campbell	...	...	3

PIPE PLAYING (PIOBAIREACHD).

Sergt. Piper Ferguson	...	...	1
Piper Fleming	...	...	2
Private MacLean	...	...	3

CONSOLATION RACE.

Lce.-Corpl. Peacock,	"H"	...	1
Private Skene,	"G"	...	2
„ Lorrimer	"B"	...	3

A Highland officer, named Cameron, on perambulating a camp, observed two of his men lying dead drunk behind a tent. He called out, Sergeant, whantna two rascals are thae?" "It's Shon Macdonald and Donald Cameron." Officer—"Puir Donald Cameron! Tak' him into his tent, and throw a planket o'er him for fear he should get cauld; but tak' that scoundrel Shon Macdonald to the rear-guard."

N. C. O. to "draffies" belonging to his company.—Take your muzzle stoppers and sight protectors to the tailor's shop to be numbered.

Embodiment of Stirlingshire Militia.

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DEPARTURE FOR MARYHILL.

The 3rd Battalion Argyll and Southerland Highlanders (Stirlingshire Militia) was embodied at Stirling Castle yesterday for service in South Africa. This is not the first occasion that the regiment has been called out since the outbreak of the war, as on 23rd January, 1900, it assembled at Stirling Castle, and proceeded to Ireland, where it remained doing duty in various capacities until the 4th December of the same year, the larger part of this period being spent in camp at Ballyshannon. While in Ireland the regiment volunteered almost to a man to go to South Africa, but their services were not accepted, and it was only recently that the War Office indicated they might have another chance of placing their services at the disposal of the military authorities. Undoubtedly the feature of this last call has been the magnificent and patriotic response of all ranks, testifying to the deep and widespread desire that exists among all classes to lend their aid bringing this protracted war to a successful issue. The officers set a good example by offering their services almost without exception, and by entering enthusiastically into the undertaking. As for the men, their appearance yesterday more than justified the high words of commendation passed upon them recently by their Colonel, His Grace the Duke of Montrose, K.T., A.D.C., who said that no finer corps had sailed for South Africa. There is a good sprinkling of growing lads amongst them, but the proportion of seasoned men is large, and the general standard of the men is above the average. Every man on the strength of the battalion was required to report himself at Stirling Castleby ten o'clock yesterday, and although a number were not forward, the result was highly satisfactory. Fully seven hundred men were dealt with at the Castle yesterday. On arrival each man reported himself to the Sergeant-Instructor of his Company, from whom he received a card bearing his name and regimental number. This card was presented when the individual went to "pass the doctor" and the doctor's report—"fit," "unfit," or "temporarily unfit"—regulated the man's next movement. If he passed all right he went to the store and got his uniform and accoutrements and then moved on to the "Lion's Den," where he dressed himself in his new habiliments. At the Armoury he got his rifle, and was then fully equipped. Those who failed to pass the medical inspection were granted sick pay, and allowed to go home, while those temporarily unfit were detained. There was a great stir and bustle at the Castle all forenoon, and as the hour approached for the departure of the men for Maryhill Barracks, where they are to remain until the time of sailing, a large crowd collected outside the Castle gate. Inside, the sergeants were busy getting their companies into order, both upper and lower squares being utilised for this purpose. When they had all been "told off," it was found that there were 520 men on parade. Excluding those who were certified as medically unfit, there were over 100 men who turned up after dinner, and were too late to be fitted out in time to go with their comrades. These will be sent on to Maryhill Barracks to-day to join the battalion. When all was ready, the companies formed fours and marched off in perfect order, headed by the Stirling Brass Band, whose services were offered by Provost Thomson. Colonel Trotter, commanding the 91st Regimental District, rode in front, while Colonel the Duke of Montrose marched down at the head of his men. The streets were lined with spectators, but the departure was very quiet and orderly. In Station Road a large force of police, under Chief-Constable Fergu-

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son, assisted by a military picket and a number of the railway company's employes, kept the crowd back from the precincts of the station, and allowed the soldiers a comparatively free passage. The entrainment was quietly effected in what was formerly the Forth and Clyde siding, the band playing several selections on the platform, and finishing up with "Auld Lang Syne." Provost Thomson and the Magistrates of the Burgh were introduced to His Grace the Duke of Montrose on the platform, and the Provost expressed, on behalf of the community, the hope that the battalion would have a safe passage, and that they would see them all safe back again. Cheers were raised as the train steamed out of the station, a few minutes before four o'clock. The officers who are going out with the battalion are—Colonel the Duke of Montrose, Colonel Campbell Colquhoun, Major and Adjutant Mackenzie, Major Middleton, Major Scott Plummer, Captain Rouse, Captain Downie, Lieut. and Quartermaster Beattie, Lieut C. P. Harrison, Lieut. Ker, Lieut. Lord George Dundas, Lieut. Cuthbert, Lieut. M'Kenzie, Lieut. Couper, Lieut. K. Barge, Lieut. J. A. Ure, and Lieut. Cunningham.—*Stirling Sentinal.*

The following is an extract taken from Regimental District After Orders by Colonel P. D. Trotter, commanding 91st Regimental District:—

Stirling, January 6th.—The officer commanding 91st Regimental District has much pleasure in recording his appreciation, not only of the ready response of the 3rd Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, to the call for service in South Africa, but also for their soldierly bearing and the perfect order in which they left the Castle to-day. Colonel Trotter congratulates the Duke of Montrose and the officers on this very satisfactory indication of the discipline of the Battalion, and he trusts that this high standard may be maintained during their stay at, and their departure from, Maryhill, and confirms the good opinion he has always held regarding them. He wishes to assure the men that their families' interests will be well looked after in their absence, and he sees to-day by their exemplary behaviour on embodiment that they fully appreciate what is required of them in the important duty which has again called them together.

January 9.—On inspecting the Battalion at Maryhill yesterday, Colonel Trotter found only 18 men unable, for urgent reasons, to embark with their comrades, and these men, as he assured them, incurred no discredit whatever in their inability to proceed on active service. After inspecting the Battalion, which he found in excellent order, Colonel Trotter congratulated all ranks on their turn-out on parade, and more especially on the fact—almost unique in the embodiment of militia, even on ordinary occasions—that not a single man had left his command at Stirling Castle who was the least under the influence of liquor or in any way unfit for duty. This, he remarked, was an indication of discipline, but they might well be proud, and he trusted that their conduct while at Maryhill and on embodying for the front would be such as to maintain the high estimation in which the Battalion was held in the county, and the West of Scotland.

"Gentlemen of the jury," said an Irish lawyer, "it will be for you to say whether the defendant shall be allowed to come into Court with unblushing footsteps, with a cloak of hypocrisy in his mouth, and draw three bullocks out of my client's pockets with impunity.

Volunteer Intelligence.

2ND V. B. A. AND S. HIGHLANDERS.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

Last night the prizes won by the Volunteers during the past season were presented, in the Drill Hall, by Colonel Sir Thomas Glen-Coats. Colonel Sir Thomas Glen-Coats presided, and he was supported by most of the officers previous to presenting the prizes.

Sir THOMAS referred to the new departure that had been taken this year in connection with the distribution of the prizes. Owing to the great amount of work that had to be undertaken by the officers and non-commissioned officers in connection with the bazaar, no time had been left for arrangements being made for the usual dance. The bazaar, as they knew, was a huge success, and although the new range would not be in order this year, he hoped it to be ready the following. They were all aware that the War Office had issued an order for the raising of anotther contingent to relieve the second contingent now serving at the front. Up to the present time they had had very few applications, but those desirous of going to South Africa should hand in their names to Captain Payne. He then dealt with the new regulations, stating that although they were stringent, they were required if they wished to have an efficient force. The advantages of going to camp were many. However, there was the difficulty of employers allowing workmen who were Volunteers going away for the necessary time. But he hoped the Secretary for War would impress upon employers the necessity of allowing the men to get away. Regarding the efficiency of the battalion this year the figure of merit was 210, while last year it was 189. They stood first in the Volunteer Battalions in Scotland for figure of merit. The figure of merit for recruits was 125. The number of efficients on 1st November 1901 was 939. The best shooting company was Captain M'Laurin's, while the best shot of the battalion was Sergeant Noble.—*Paisley and Renfrewshire Gazette.*

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SHOOTING OF NORTHERN VOLUNTEER CORPS.

Captain D. Mackenzie Stuart (Royal Scots Fusiliers), District Inspector of Musketry, Scottish Headquarters Staff, has issued the results of the Musketry training of Scottish Infantry Volunteers for the year ended 31st October. The number of men exercised through the "trained volunteer's course" reached the very handsome figure of 34,176, as against 29,168 similarly exercised during the year which closed on 31st October 1900. From the firgues of merit for last year it is shown that the men exercised average 161 points per man for the individual and sectional courses, as against a figure of merit of 158 points per man in the preceding year. Of the men exercised no fewer than 15,110 are classed marksmen, the second class accounting for 17,037, and the third class credited with only 95. The classification of the recruits is equally satisfactory, for it is shown that 6,259 had reached the first-class, with 2,390 in the second class, and only 28 shown as third-class shots. These results conclusively prove that a satisfactory improvement has set in in the matter of rifle shooting.

The Sutherland Rifle Volunteers had 1,046 men exercised (including 238 recurits), 477 marksmen, 142 recruits in the first-class, 336 marksmen and 90 recruits in the second-class, and 1 marksman and 1 recruit third-class. Their strength is far above any of the northern corps. The figures of merit are—Trained men 181; recruits, 105.

Of the 46 companies, the first position has been won for the second year. by D (Buckie) Company, 6th V. B. Gordon Highlanders, with a figure of 241 points. F. (Lairg) Company (Captain H. Macdonald) is placed second with 240 points. F (Kingussie) Company (Major Even Campbell), 1st V. B. Cameron Highlanders takes thirteenth place, with a score of 215—*Northern Times.*

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What the Parrot is Saying.

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[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.

THAT the Soldier's Hoame is a guid place for a tretotaler when he's no drinking.

That you could see them all round the canteen like the figure S.

That it was "Pass Caledonian, all's well."

That No. 2 Tent is the best tent in the bungalow

That General's Inspection wis a teek affair.

That it wonders who gave the chocolate tae the Boers.

That it wis' na sae very sorry tae leave "Shahjahanfontien."

That a few strange *faces* were seen in the *kilt* on the way doon tae Calcutta.

That it had twa nichts *in bed* in the train.

That a troop train is an awfu place tae try and get a sleep in.

That he had tae get the other five men in the carriage tae jump on his chest baith mornings afore he could straighten himself oot.

That "Bomcutta" is grand place.

That the Eden gardens is a fine place tae mash in.

That its roll on the names for the draft.

That she sang a guid Scotch reading.

What it's cousin at Ranikhet is saying—

That Carnagie took the ham.

That its going tae buy a pound o'meal wi its next bounty.

That the N. C. O.'s dance wis a grand success.

That her nainsel tried tae learn the ladies.

That potatoes and sandwiches is a glorious dinner for fechtin sojers.

That he tried tae describe the ladies dresses.

That he couldna tell black frae white.

That they are grand wood peckers.

OVERHEARD IN THE EDEN GARDENS.

Polite soldier— Is'nt this a fine place ?

Another polite soldier—Yes ! but you want to go round and see the other side, there is a beautiful lake with ponds in it.

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1901-02 Musketry Course.

—o—

The following are the *twelve best shots* exercised with their companies :—

"B" *Company.*

		Score.
1.	No. 4343, Private J. Maclean	204
2.	„ 3037, Sergeant G. Arnott	201
3.	„ 3747, Private T. Trainer	192
4.	„ 5182, Lance-Corporal T. Morrison... ...	191
5.	„ 6910, Sergeant Master-Tailor H. Crawford	190
6.	„ 4991, Private J. Anderson	190
7.	„ 5052, „ R. Hunter	190
8.	„ 4981, Lance-Corporal P. Malone	187
9.	„ 2425, Corporal A. McKinness	186
10.	„ 4058, „ J. Buchanan	184
11.	„ 4980, Drummer A. Ferguson	183
12.	„ 4780, Private J. Hope	181

"F" *Company.*

		Score.
1.	No. 3344, Sergeant A. E. Laurie	206
2.	Captain A. Elphinston	203
3.	No. 6239, Private A. Auchinvole	194
4.	No. 3849, Corporal J. Duff	188
5.	„ 5265, Private A. Hamilton	185
6.	„ 5827, Lce. Cpl. J. B. Clarke	185
7.	„ 4430, Private W. Morrison	185
8.	„ 6072, „ R. Jamieson	183
9.	„ 5344, „ H. E. Robson	180
10.	„ 4821, „ W. Miller	179
11	„ 5837, „ W. Lawrence	176
12.	„ 5946, „ R. Maywood	174

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Football.

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THE Football season is again closed, as far as the Company League is concerned, at any rate. Although somewhat hurried the season has been of exceptional interest, and contained, almost to the last minute, the usual amount of uncertainty as to the ultimate winners of the trophy. Had "G" only drawn with "C" the competition would have lasted for another couple of matches at least, and exciting possibilities would thus have been opened out, as "G," "C" and "F" would have stood equal, with ten points each to their credit. However, "G" had no intenion of letting their chance slip by, and no one grudges them their victory. It was certainly a popular win—as far as popularity goes in a company league match. "A" are the wooden-spoonists of this season as they were of last, and "D" also occupies the same relative position in the ladder as they filled last year, that of second from the bottom. "D" and "H" only played six matches each, as the resnlt of the match between "G" and "C" placed the final issue beyond all doubt.

"G" Company has now won the clock three times, an honour that is shared by "F" Company. Of the remaining companies, "A" and "B" have won it twice each, and "C," "E," and "H" once each, while "D" have yet to establish a claim to its possession.

As was pointed out in the "Thin Red Line" of May last the trophy is in a very dilapidated condition and sadly wants overhauling, or a new one bought, but no doubt that will all come in time. Patience is a virtue that footballers as well as ordinary people must cultivate.

THE LEAGUE.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*C*" *Company*.—6th January. An easy-going match of no special interest. Result, "C" 3 goals, "A" 0.

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"*B*" *Company* v. "*D*" *Company*.—7th January. "B" Company managed to pull off their first win for the season in spite of the fact that they were deficient of the services of several of their regular players. Result, "B" 1 goal, "D" 0.

"*G*" *Company* v. "*E*" *Company*.—8th January. A good hard game, "E" making "G" play for the brace of points they gained. Result, "G" 2 goals, "E" 1.

"*F*" *Company* v. *H Company*.—10th January. A very hard game was the verdict on this match; quite one of the best of the season. Result. "F" 1 goal, "H" 0.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company*.—13th January. This was only a farce of a game, "G" simply passed the time away as quietly as they could until time was called. Towards the end of the "game" "G." were playing nine men only. Result, "G" 3 goals, "A" 1.

"*D*" *Company* v. "*F*" *Company*.—14th January. This proved to be one of the hardest and most exciting matches of the season, and "D" Company are to be congratulated on the good show they made, "F's" chances of winning the trophy were completely destroyed by the result of this match, which was rather a pity, as it spoiled a great deal of the interest in the competition. "F" Company probably owed their defeat to the fact that they undervalued their opponents a little too much, a failing which all sporting organisations and individuals seem to be afflicted with. Result, "D" 1 goal, "F" 0.

"C" *Company* v. "*E*" *Company*.—15th January. This match is scarcely worth mentioning. "C" Company simply received a present of a brace of points. Result "C" 4 goals, "E" 1.

"*B*" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company*.—17th January. Play between these two companies was of a give and take order, last year's champions eventually notching the points. Result "B" 2 goals, "H" 0.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*E*" *Company*.—20th January. "A" Company scratched to "E".

"*B*" *Company* v. "*F*" *Company*.—21st January. This match did not come off either, "B" Company giving up the points to their sister Company.

"C" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company*.—22nd January. This was the deciding tie of the competition and evoked a proportionate amount of interest. The teams formed up as follows:—

"G" COMPANY.

Goal.

BLACKIE.

MULHOLLAND BAKER.

McMILLAN BENSON (Captn.) BROWN.

McKAY, GILMOUR, HOUSTON, WILSON, McAULEY.

O

PERRIE CLEMENTS WILSON (Captn.) CAIRNS,

HOGG McDONALD SOUTAR GEDDES.

GIBSON KERR.

FRENCH.

Goal.

Referee.—Corporal Jamieson.

Linesmen.—Privates Scott and Hamilton.

The match was well fought on both sides and during the first half especially with no apparent advantage to either, with a result that no goals were scored. With a change of ends "G" Company infused more vigour into their play, and before many minutes had passed Benson scored the first point for his team. "G" were now playing grandly, and Houston sustained his reputation by his management of the forward line. Ten minutes later McAuley scored the second goal for "G" Company, and all doubt regarding the termination of the game vanished. "C" did not relax their efforts to equalise the scores, however, and so the game continued to interest until the finish. Several times "C" Company looked rather dangerously near G's goal, but their efforts were frustrated by the good defence made by G's back division, Baker as usual playing a fine game. The call of time found "G" still pressing but with no further addition to the score. Result, "G" 2 goals; "C" 0.

"D" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company*. This match was not played, as the result of the game between "G" and "C" practically decided the competition.

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FINAL LEAGUE TABLE ENDING JANUARY 1902.

Order.	Company.	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	Goals. For.	Goals. Against.	Points.
1	"G"	7	5	1	1	13	5	11
2	"F"	7	5	0	2	10	4	10
3	"C"	7	3	3	1	10	6	9
4	"B"	7	2	2	3	4	4	6
5	"E"	7	3	0	4	5	13	6
6	"H"	6	2	1	3	7	8	5
7	"D"	6	2	1	3	5	7	5
8	"A"	7	1	0	6	6	13	2

N.B.—"A" scratched to "E" and "B" to "F," and the match between "D" and "H" was not played.

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WINNERS OF THE FOOTBALL CLOCK.

1888-89	"F"	Company
1889-90	"H"	"
1890-91	"A"	"
1891-92	"C"	"
1892-93	"G"	"
1893-94	"B"	"
1894-95	"A"	"
1895-96	"E"	"
1896-97-98	"F"	"
1898-99	"F"	"
1899-1900	"G"	"
1900-01	"B"	"
1901-02	"G"	"

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KITCHENER'S MISTAKE.

—o—

One of the very few occasions on which Lord Kitchener has "given himself away" in public is mentioned by a writer in "Navy and Army Illustrated." "Lord K. has a great faculty by which he is able to size men up at a glance. Shortly after DeWet fell like an avalanche on Lord Roberts's communications, Lord K. was down the line fitting out extemporary Mounted Infantry columns. A large number of details had been dumped down at Vredefort Road Station. Lord K. determined to equip and send them into the field at once. He went to the waiting-room to look for officers, and found a single man in occupation. He was smart and well-dressed, and pleased Lord K.'s critical eye. You will command a corps of Mounted Infantry I've just raised!" "Very good, sir, what will my duties be?" "Don't you know your duties?" "My own—yes, sir!" "Then don't argue. What is you regiment?" "Blankshires, sir" "What. rank?" "Master tailor, sir!" Lord K. had business elsewhere."

To prevent beer from being turned by thunder.—Having ascertained that it is perfectly good, draw off entirely in pint pots; then having collected an equal number of railway navvies, distribute accordingly.

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W[illegible]e Mounted Infantry.

—o—

[illegible]. School, Fategarh.

No d[illegible] me of your readers would like to know b[illegible] of the M. I. detachment are getting on her[illegible] how we amuse ourselves after the work [illegible]e day is finished. Concerning the station, it is a very desolate place, and the country for miles around is much broken up by water-courses. It is a splendid place for shooting, plenty of game of all sorts being found not many miles from barracks. The only troops here are one company of the North Staffords from Jhansi and the M. I. The one pleasant evening we have is Monday, when Mr. Rollick, the missionary here, invites us down to tea. We pass the evening away playing Ping-Pong, singing songs and of course Ned and his fiddle are always present to give us a few bars of music, thus making the evening a bit lively. There are detachments of five different regiments here going through the course of instruction, each detachment forming one section, and the whole forming one company. No. 1 section is composed of the detachment of the Norfolk Regiment; No. 2, Scots Fusiliers; No. 3, Border Regiment; No. 4, 93rd Highlanders, and No. 5, the Rifle Brigade. I am pleased to say the whole of the detachments are doing very well. Every one takes a great interest in the work allotted to them and do their best. We have an excellent staff of Instructors, and I hope to see every one returning to the battalion with good certificates.

I may say that this is not a very easy course of training. We have scarcely got five minutes to ourselves before dinner time, especially on Saturday. The following is the daily programme of work (Sundays and Thursdays there is less of course). 6 A. M. Reveille, 6·30 A.M.—water and feed horses; 7 to 8 A.M.—Parade on foot; 8·45 to 10 A.M.—Mounted parade 10·30 to 12 noon—Grooming horses and cleaning Stables; 12·30 P.M.—Water and feed horses; 4 P.M.—Water, feed and horses beds down. On Saturday, in addition to the above, we have medical inspection, horse inspection, and saddlery inspection, so you see we have no time to play ourselves. Some of the horses we have here are very quiet, but others are the reverse, and it is an amusing sight to watch the various classes at riding drill, especially when they are cantering without stirrups. It is nothing unusual to see a few horses come galloping back minus their riders, or else the rider clinging like grim death to the horse's neck. The majority of us felt very stiff and sore at first, and when we had to sit down it was a case of doing so by numbers,—like a man trying to sit down on a row of tacks. It had to be done so nice and gentle I assure you. On the 30th January we left Fategarh at 3. A. M. for Patiala. The march was a very trying one of 51 miles—parts of it we had to foot it ourselves of course. One horse died on the road about 20 miles from camp, so the man who was riding it had to gird up his loins and use shank's mare for the remainder of the journey. All the horses were pretty well done up, and, as for the men, they were almost as bad. It took some of them all their time to walk into camp after watering their horses, they were so stiff and sore. We took two days for the return journey as the horses were unfit to do it in one day. Everyone was thankful when we reached barracks again, which we did about 1 p.m. on the 3rd February. Only one blanket and a greatcoat were allowed on the march, and these were a real necessity at night, as we had no tents and the weather was extremely cold. The horses got three days rest after they came in, and they required it, too.

W. H. R.

—:o:—

Banikhet Notes.

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N. C. O.'S SUPPER AND DANCE.

A very successful supper and dance was held in the Sergeants' Mess Rooms on Hogmanay night. The place was decorated as it probably never had been before, and was a theme of admiration during the evening. The working committee, to whom all the credit is due, consisted of Sergeant Fawcett, Corporal Menzies and Lance-Corporals Wilson and Sheppard. To the same committee is also due the credit for the supper arrangements, which were perfect. Dancing commenced at 9 A.M., and was kept up till well on in the "wee sma hours" of the morning. Supper was laid for forty people, most of whom were guests, the latter including Captain and Mrs. Graham. The New Year was brought in at 12 o'clock in the usual happy manner, after which the dancing was continued with fresh vigour. The thanks of the N. C. O.'s are due to Mr. and Mrs. Parvion for their kindness in assisting to promote the success of the event. A dance programme is appended:

Programme.

—o—

1.	Waltz	11.	Waltz
2.	Quadrille	12.	Quadrille
3.	Highland Schottische	13.	Highland Schottische
4.	D'Asturian Waltz	14.	D'Asturian Waltz
5.	Lancers	15.	D'Alberts
6.	Schottische	16.	Schottische
7.	Polka	17.	Polka
8.	German Schottische.	18.	Iolanthe
9.	Iolanthe	19.	German Schottische
10.	Waltz	20.	Waltz
	Supper.	21.	Circassian Circle.

God Save the King.

F. H.

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Ninety-third Calendar for March 1902.

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1	S.	Halted, Shajahanpur *en route*, Oudh jungles to Sabathu, 1859; delayed three days on account of weather.
2	S.	
3	M.	Hd-qrs. ("E," "F," "G," and "H," Coys.) Bareilly for Chaubattia, 1899. Lt.-Col. Halkett relinquished command, 1810, to 10th Foot. Hd. qrs. arrived Ranikhet, 1901.
4	Tu.	George Johnstone, Lt.-Col., 1810. arrived Ranikhet 1901.
5	W.	Arrived Halifax from England after bad passage, 1838.
6	Th.	
7	F.	Lieut.-Col. Andrew Creagh to 81st Foot, 1822. Henry Milling, Lt.-Col., 1822 (never joined). Arrived Malta, 1854.
8	S.	Disembarked, Malta, 1854 (Minie Rifle issued). Headquarters arrived Chaubattia, 1898.
9	S.	Capture of Martiniere College, final attack upon Lucknow, 1858. Arrived, Rawalpindi from Umballa 1860. Surgeon-Major William Munro, M.D., C.B., left after 13 years in regiment to take up appointment of D. I. G. of Hospitals, 1867.
10	M.	Lt.-General William Wemyss, Colonel of Regiment, 1850.
11	Tu.	Begum Kothee, Lucknow, stormed 1858; 2 officers, 13 N. C. O.'s and men killed; 2 officers, 45 N. C. O's and men wounded.
12	W.	
13	Th.	
14	F.	
15	S.	
16	S.	William Wemyss, Lt.-Col., 1815.
17	M.	
18	Tu.	
19	W.	Peshawar District Assault-at-Arms, 1896, won "Tug-of-war" pulling Devons, and Signalling Competition.
20	Th.	Peshawar District Assault-at-Arms, 1896. 2nd day; pulled "Buffs" in final. Left Shorncliffe for Dublin, 1876.
21	F.	Severe street fighting in Lucknow, 1858. Inter-Coy. Tug-of war, "H" Coy. win shield, Ranikhet, 1900.
22	S.	
22	S.	Duncan Macgregor, Lt.-Col. 1826, *vice* Lt.-Col. Sir Chas. Gordon, to half-pay.
24	M.	Annual inspection at Bareilly by Brigadier-General Clifford, 1898.
25	Tu.	Troopship "*Himalaya*" with 93rd arrived, Leith from Bombay, 1870. Annual inspection (2nd day), 1898.
26	W.	Do. (3rd day), 1898, Inter-Coy. Physical Drill Competition, "C" Company wins Shield, Ranikhet, 1900.
27	Th.	Final captureof Lucknow, 1858.
28	F.	Disembarked, Leith, 1870; headquarters to Aberdeen, Detachments to Perth and Stirling.
29	S.	2nd Bn. 93rd, left Aberdeen for Gravesend, 1814. Left Gibraltar for Portsmouth, 1881.
30	S.	2nd Bn. 93rd, Aberdeen for Gravesend, 1814.
31	M.	

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACT FROM "LONDON GAZETTE."

Dated 24th December 1901.

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders).—Second-Lieutenant L. D. G. Fenzi to be Lieutenant, vice C. N. Macdonald, seconded, 24th November 1901.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Color-Sergeants:—No. 3151, Sergeant C. Stubbs, "A" Company, dated 20th December 1901; No. 2735, Sergeant J. Tyndall, "B" Company, dated 25th December 1901.

To be Sergeants:—No. 5230, Lance-Sergeant D. Yardley "E" Company, dated 28th November 1901; No. 4567, Lance-Sergeant D. Inglis, "G" Company, dated 25th December 1901.

PAY OF RANK.

To be Paid Lance-Sergeants:—No. 3557, Corporal F. Hiscock, "A" Company, dated 28th November 1901, No. 5256, Corporal T. Atkinson, "H" Company, dated 25th December, 1901.

To be Paid Lance-Corporals:—No. 5690, Lance-Corporal P. Brisland, "G" Company, dated 28th December 1901; No. 5676, Lance-Corporal D. Wilson, "G" Company, dated 13th January 1902.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Pay Sergeant of attached Section.—No. 3808 Sergeant J. Allison, "D" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Sergeant.—No. 5667, Corporal A. Goddard, "A" Company, dated 31st January 1902.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 4654, Private C. Bennee, "G" Company, dated 7th January, 1902; No. 6391, Private W. Melville, "E" Company, dated 22nd January, 1902.

To be Regimental Provost-Sergeant.—No. 5667, Lance-Sergeant A. Goddard, "A" Company.

To act as Commissariat Sergeant.—No. 5827, Lance-Corporal J. Clarke, "F" Company.

To be Bandsman.—No. 7991, Boy P. Willmore, "D" Company.

To be employed in the Pioneer's shop.—No. 5866 Private W. Wilson, "G" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 3d. per diem:—

"D" Company.

No. 3405, Private F. Hanlon.

At 2d. per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 6064, Private N. Campbell.

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" *Company.*
[illegible] 2, Private A. Leitch.
No. 5640, [illegible]ie. | No. 5630, Pte. A. Lorimer.
" *F* " *Company.*
No. 4430, Private W. Morrison.
" *H* " *Company.*
No. 5607, Private W. Pollock.

At 1d. per diem :—

" *A* " *Company.*
No. 7198, Private T. Coyne.
" *B* " *Company.*
No. 7319, Pte. J. Lothian. | No. 2936, Pte. J. Robinson.
" *C* " *Company.*
No. 4906, Pte. T. Craig | No. 5538, Pte. C. Forrester.
No. 5553, Pte. W. McKay.
" *D* " *Company.*
No. 7194, Pte. J. McCheyne. | No. 7338, Pte. T. Stewart.
No. 5129, Private H. McLean.
" *E* " *Company.*
No. 6430, Private T. James. | No. 5454, Pte. D. Ritchie.
" *F* " *Company*
No. 3769, Pte. J. Salmons. | No. 6566, C. Hoey.

CERTIFICATES

Granted 1st Class Certificates of Education, dated 24th September, 1901 :—

No. 737, First-Class Armourer Sergeant W. Holden.
„ 2981, Sergeant W. Scott, " D " Company.
„ 3236, „ R. Miller, " G " „
„ 4535, „ J. R. Barrett " G " „
„ 5842, Corporal R. Glass, " A " „
„ 4594, Private J. Coleman " E " „
„ 5121, „ J. Moffatt " F " „
„ 5287, „ C. Munro " A " „
„ 5500, „ H. Sear " H " „

Passed in part I.—

No. 2519, Color-Sergeant W. Smith " E " Company.
„ 3116, „ „ W.R. Weller " H " „
„ 7564, Pioneer „ J.H. Snowdon " G " „
„ 5673, Lance-Corporal J. Lang " F " „

Passed in part II.—

No. 4301, Lance-Sergeant J. Gilbert, " H " Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENT.

To complete twenty-one years' Service.—

No. 3899, Private Edward McCulloch, " D " Company.

TAKEN ON STRENGTH.

No. 1438, Sergeant-Major H. Ditcham.

TRANSFERS.

To the Unattached List for employment as a Store-Sergeant in the Ordnance Department with effect from 5th July 1900 :—

No. 8217, Lance-Corporal R. Parke.

Inter-Company.—

No. 5230, Sergeant D. Yardley " E " to " D " Coy.
„ 4567, „ D. Inglis " G " „ " E " „
„ 4983, Lc.-Sergt. M. Rutherford " E " „ " H " „
„ 7991, Boy P. Willmore " D " „ " C " „

NUMBERS ALLOTTED.

No. 8214, to Sergeant W. Burd.
„ 8215, „ E. Cheeseman.
„ 8216, „ H. A. Mandy.
„ 8217, to Lance Corpl. R. Parke.
„ 8218, to Sergeant W. Charles.
„ 8219, „ J. Clements.
„ 8220, „ J. B. Matthew.
„ 8221, „ S. Simpson.

FURLOUGH,

Embarked on the troopship " Hardinge " on the 8th January :—

No. 3870, Private J. Brown, " C " Company.
„ 4369, „ J. Dunlop " C " „
„ 5225, „ W. Hastie, " A " „

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

Deaths.

McArthur.—At the Station Hospital, Shahjahanpur, on the 1st January 1902, No. 5172, Private J. McArthur, " D " Company.

Kerr.—At the Station Hospital, Shahjahanpur, on the 3rd January, 1902, No. 4914, Private J. Kerr, " G " Company.

Burd.—At Sealdah, Calcutta, on the 2nd December, 1901, No. 8214, Sergeant W. Burd, Unattached List.

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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following papers :—

" The Men of Harlech "	for November.
" The Light Bob Gazette "	„ December.
" The Tiger and the Rose "	„ „
" The Diehards' Doings "	„ „
" I'm Ninety-five "	„ „
" The Thistle "	„ „
" The St. George's Gazette "	„ „
" The Oakleaf "	„ January.
" The Green Howards Gazette "	„ „
" The Diehards' Doings "	„ „
" The Dragon "	„ „
" The Globe and Laurel "	„ „
" The Lillywhites Gazette "	„ February.
" The Military Mail "	Weekly.
" The Aldershot News "	„
" The Rothesay Express "	„

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SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following subscriptions :—

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Lieutenant G. S. Douglas, King's Own Scottish Borderers	3	0	0
Sergeant Scott, A. P. Dept.	2	0	0
„ Artlett, Q. M. G. Dept. ...	2	0	0
Private Kerr, " D " Company	3	0	0

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" E " „ —Corporal MacRae.
" F " „ —Private McCreath.
" G " „ —Lance-Corporal Ellis.
" H " „ —Private Comrie.

Band—Bandsman Yeo.
Ranikhet Detachment—Lance-Corporal Hanlon.
Fategarh Detachment—Private Rastall.

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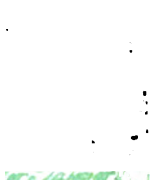

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Vol. VI,

THIN RED LINE.

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DOUBLE NUMBER.

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. Princess Louise's Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 11—Vol. VII. CALCUTTA—MARCH AND APRIL, 1902. [Price, 3 Annas.

Editorial.

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EVERY ONE who is acquainted with Indian military life must be aware of that inventive talent for supplying a new station which is displayed so soon as the time draws near for a regiment to vacate its old quarters for new scenes. It is just such a period as the above through which we have passed—a hideous nightmare of rumour, uncertainty and wild speculation; but the dawn has broken at last, and as the mist rolls from our night of doubt and misgiving, we wake to gaze upon such things as our memory prompted us to recall from some far-away point in our career.

Rumour had for months prior to our actual move been exceeding rife: Poona, Jubbulpur, Lucknow, Fyzabad, Cawnpur were all mentioned as possible destination; and, moreover, regarded by many as probable destination; each having its adherents, but no one surely had dared to breathe the name of Calcutta; the idea had been preposterous, merely perhaps because unsupported by any precedent. Consequently when rumour had tried and been found wanting, all dispute was finally set at rest by the announcement in the *Pioneer* which foretold what no one in the smallest degree had anticipated.

It is interesting to note that with the exception of the 73rd, now the 2nd Battalion, Royal Highlanders, who were quartered in Fort William somewhere about 1790, no other Highland regiment has ever made a prolonged stay here: some doubt even is attached to the 73rd being a kilted regiment at the time they were at Fort William.

The renewal of acquaintance with Calcutta which the 93rd made on the 31st of January last occurs after a lapse of forty-four years, for the old 93rd landed opposite Fort William on 20th September 1857 to take part in the great Sepoy Mutiny which was at that time threatening to overthrow British rule in India.

Tempora mutantur indeed, and perhaps Mr. Forbes Mitchell, who landed with the regiment in 1857, could tell us to what extent, for he must look upon the Calcutta of to-day as very different from the Calcutta of yesterday. The fine buildings which grace the present city, its public pleasure grounds and resorts all combine to make the Calcutta of to-day a brighter jewel in the Imperial Crown; enlightened and far-seeing statesmen and Viceroys have individually and jointly worked towards the great end which will make Calcutta still more advanced in accordance with western ideas and the great benefits which must accrue in their promulgation.

It is too early to say as yet what our impressions of Calcutta really are; it is too sudden and too unexpected for us to grasp thoroughly the situation in which we find ourselves; but in the short time we have been here we have found friends who have already shown that they take a real interest in the regiment; that we may during our stay sustain and foster this feeling must be the earnest endeavour and wish of each one of us.

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SKIRLS

WE must apologise to our readers for publishing a double number, but the call of duty which is heavy indeed in Calcutta, together with the vast amount of shifting about we have had during the last six months, must be held accountable for the presentation of the March and April numbers combined. A change of printers has also become desirable owing to the extreme distance to which we have to send our copy for printing. Since the "Thin Red Line" was first issued in January, 1894, it has been printed by the "Civil and Military Gazette" Press, Lahore, and naturally we feel loth to change our old friends for new. But the time has come when such change is imperative in the interests of the paper, and we have made arrangements to have the next number, which is the commencement of a new volume, printed by a Calcutta firm. Every effort will be made to have the paper issued up to date in future.

An index to Volume VII is issued with this number. A limited number of volumes will be bound, and subscribers who intend purchasing will oblige us by ordering as soon as possible. The price will be Rs. 4.

* * * * *

The following notes from the Battalion's Annual Return may prove interesting to our readers. The return is dated the 1st January, so the draft which left recently for South Africa is obviously included in the strength. Our numbers on that date were 28 officers and 988 of other ranks. Excluding officers, who are, with few exceptions, Scotch, 800 of the rank and file are of Scotch nationality, 117 are English, 158 are Irish and 13 are of Colonial birth. Their religious denominations show 700 Church of Scotland, 169 Roman Catholics, 110 Church of England and 9 Wesleyans. The average height is 5 feet 6½ inches (including several boys), and the average service of the battalion is about 7 years. The number serving on twenty-one years engagement is shown as 63, which is probably a larger number than most people would think there was in these degenerate short service days. Of the 329 men who are serving for twelve years with the colours 224 are bounty men, 65 have evidently extended because they liked soldiering, and 40 were enlisted as boys on a twelve-years' engagement. 733 men of the Battalion are over twenty-four years of age, 104 are between twenty-three and twenty-four, 33 are over twenty-two, 30 over twenty-one, 71 over twenty, 8 over nineteen, 4 over eighteen, and the remaining 5 are boys under eighteen. Educationally we ought to have one of the first places in the army, about 40 per cent. being certificated. There are 148 third class, 217 second class, and 32 first class army school certificates in the battalion, of which 10 third, 23 second, and 19 first have been obtained during the past year. One individual sports five good conduct badges on his arm, 8 have three, 256 have two, and 274 have one. There is also one good conduct medal. 17 Savings Bank depositors have managed to accumulate between them the very handsome amount of £497-1-9.

The strength was increased during the year by 135 men, drafts from home. 7 men transferred to the battalion from other corps and 2 recruits joined. Under the heading of decrease 30 men are shown as having been invalided home, and 6 men died. The health of the battalion was excellent throughout the year, and the above decrease through deaths is really a very moderate item for a tropical country.

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From *St. Andrew*, we cull the following:—

Boer Prisoners.

MR. THOMSON writes:—The 93rd Highlanders left Ranikhet early in October to guard Boer Prisoners at Shahjahanpur. The Boers arrived on the 19th October, and attracted much interest. They looked dirty and dejected, as if they were indifferent to their own appearance and to their surroundings; but after a few days' rest they brightened up considerably. Everything that can be done to make their imprisonment tolerable is being done; and I wish some of the highly imaginative people at home, who are so grieved over the hardships Boer prisoners have to endure, had a sight of the Boers disporting themselves in the Shahjahanpur Camp. The prisoners have preachers in plenty (whether ordained or not, I cannot say), and have refused numerous offers of assistance from the Scottish, English and Methodist Ministers in the district. A few Boers come to our Thursday and Sunday evening services; but the Mission Church is small, and sometimes many of our own men have been turned away for lack of room. The Mission Church has been kindly lent for our voluntary services by the Rev. J. Blackstock, who has a warm feeling for the 93rd Highlanders, having officiated as the Chaplain of the detachments at Shahjahanpur in recent years.

Church Collections.

We have raised this quarter by Church collections—

	Rs.	A.
For the North India Bible Society ...	16	12
——— Sialkot Mission	15	0
——— Shahjanpur Mission	30	0

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What is supposed to be a record march was lately performed by the mounted infantry company at Fathgarh. The company, consisting of sections of the Norfolk Regiment, Royal Scots Fusiliers, Border Regiment, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and Rifle Brigade, starting at 3 A.M. on the 30th January, did a march of 52 miles in 14 hours with a halt of two hours half way. The men had only had three weeks training at the time this was accomplished.

* * * *

"E" Company, under 2nd-Lieutenant R. D. Falconar-Stewart, proceeded on 3rd February to Jamalpur, a large civil station about 300 miles from Calcutta, on the East Indian Railway. Situated at the foot of the Kurruckpore hills, Jamalpur is the head-quarters of the Locomotive Department of the Railway, and the Workshops of the line, which are located there, are by far the largest of their kind in India. A considerable number of Volunteers reside at this important place, and it was for the purpose of assisting in the training of these that "E" Company made acquaintance with Jamalpur. The Volunteers proved very hospitable, and "E" Company came back after about a week's absence with glowing accounts of the kind manner in which they had been treated. The work they were called upon to perform was chiefly tactical schemes on a small scale, with a slight dash of Boer methods of warfare thrown in to make things a bit exciting. Sports were held before leaving at which "E" Company distinguished themselves, especially in the tug-of-war, we believe, but our special correspondent with the Army having neglected to supply particulars, we are unable to go into details of their successes.

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Brigadier-General H. P. Leach, C. B., D. S. O., inspected the Battalion on the *maidan* on the 4th February. The battalion was drawn up in line and after the General had received the usual salute he made a very close inspection of the ranks, after which he witnessed the battalion practising the new attack formation. In connection with this parade the following Battalion order was published:—"The C. O. is directed by the G. O. C. to express his pleasure at the arrival of the battalion in the station, and his satisfaction with their appearance on parade, and the manner in which the movements were performed."

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Owing to changes in the commanders of companies the following is the order for companies to fall in on parade for the future:—"G," "B," "H," "A," "F," "C," "D," and "E."

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Captain McCandlish and Lieutenants Harvey and J. Kennedy have returned from their twelve months leave looking very fit and well. Lieutenant Herbert has taken advantage of their return to secure a short spell at home himself.

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The draft for South Africa under Lieutenant H. M. Thomson left Calcutta on Sunday, 16th February. Their departure was very quiet, the general feeling of the remainder of the battalion being one of sorrow at losing so many old comrades. General Leach was present on the square to say good-bye and spoke a few kindly words to the men which were much appreciated. Major Paterson and most of the officers and sergeants and a good number of the men accompanied the draft to the railway station at Howrah, where the commencement of the first stage of their long journey took place.

The Commanding Officer, published the following Battalion Order a few days previous to the departure of the draft:—

"Lieut.-Col. Campbell having been ordered away on Inspection duty, regrets extremely that he is unable personally to say good-bye to the men of the draft which is being prepared for service in South Africa.

"He knows that they will soon form a valuable addition to the 1st Battalion and to the Force under Lord Kitchener. He trusts that during the short time they have still to remain in India, they will maintain their character for good conduct which the regiment has already gained since its arrival in Calcutta.

"He hopes that they will not long be detained in Africa, but that they may all soon get safely home, and that in due course he may have the pleasure of meeting many of them there."

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"B" and "F" Companies performed field-firing practices at the Salt Lakes on 14th February. We have not heard the result of the practice yet, but, owing to the mirage which is so very prevalent in that district, no very great results are expected.

* * * * *

A Bicycle Club has been formed in the battalion and the membership promises to be a very large one, as the conditions are easy and within the reach of every one. Permanent passes for cycling are being granted to the members of the club, which should go far in popularising the pastime.

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Sergeants Barrett, Ward, and Allison are away to join the permanent Staff of the 3rd Battalion in South Africa. Sergeant Fawcett has gone to Paisley to join the 4th Battalion Staff. We wish them all good luck and a pleasant voyage.

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2nd-Lieutenant H. T. Shakespear, who has been attached to us for the last twelve months prior to being posted to the Indian Staff Corps, has been appointed to the 8th Bengal Lancers and left during the month to join his new corps.

* * * * *

The Commander-in-Chief, Sir A. P. Palmer, G.C.I.E., K.C.B., arrived in Fort William from his winter tour of inspection on the 23rd February, and left again on the 26th March on another tour of inspection prior to taking up his residence at Simla for the summer months. During his stay in the fort the battalion furnished a guard daily of 2 N. C. O's. and 12 privates on the Commander-in-Chief's residence at Treasury Gate.

* * * * *

2nd-Lieutenant W. J. Cunninghame on arrival from South Africa, where he has been doing duty with the 91st, has been posted to "H" Company. Mr. Cunninghame only remained in Calcutta a few days and then proceeded home on urgent leave.

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A draft, under 2nd-Lieutenant L. S. C. Cheape, consisting of, Sergeant, 1 Corporal, 44 Privates and 1 Boy, joined on 17th March. The physique of the men is fairly good and a summer on the hills at Darjeeling, to which place they departed after a few days' stay in the Fort, will probably do wonders in the way of ridding them of their boyish appearance and converting them into good-looking specimens of Highland soldiers.

* * * * *

The Presidency Athletic Meeting of 1902 was held on March 1st on the grounds of the Calcutta Cricket Club. The Band and Pipers were present, and, as a local contemporary says, "added greatly to the success of the meeting."

The Army Championship was won by the 1st Wiltshire Regiment, but the timings were poor as compared with former years with few exceptions. However the Wilts deserve the greatest credit for the sporting spirit shown by their officers in sending men down all the way from Peshawar to compete, and their victory was fully deserved.

The battalion was represented by two men only, McArthur and Comrie, of "H" Company, the former getting second in the mile, and third in the 1,000 yards. Unfortunately for our chances of the Championship, Mossman and McColl, our two star-runners, were away to Deolali, *en route* for South Africa, or no doubt we would have given the champions a close run for the shield. A good show ought to be made in the next competition with the light of this year's experience as a guide.

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Since our arrival in Calcutta a regimental hockey team has been added to the number of organisations which tend to foster and keep alive the sporting spirit which, in spite of Mr. Kipling's latest effort in the poetical line, really adds to the *esprit-de-corps* and efficiency of a battalion. The game has not as yet obtained such a firm hold of the rank and file as football perhaps, but that may come in time, as every effort is being made by the officers to popularise the game by the formation of company clubs and the presentation of a cup for annual competition. A fair measure of success has already been obtained in competition with local clubs, as will be seen by a reference to our sporting columns.

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Lieutenant Gillatt has been appointed Adjutant of the Standing Camp at Ranikhet.

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Over a hundred men, officially described as convalescent details, under the command of Lieutenant Douglas and 2nd-Lieutenant Falconar-Stewart, proceeded to Jalapahar Depôt, Darjeeling, on the 7th March. The detachment is principally composed of men of last December's draft, and a few invalids.

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The new bandolier equipment which we expected to get this year will not be issued now for at least another year, as the War Office have not finally mode up their minds as to the pattern to be adopted.

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Captain Neil Malcolm, D. S. O., has been seconded, while a student at the Staff College, Supernumerary Captain D. J. Glasfurd being absorbed in his place. Captain Glasfurd, we hear, is coming out very soon to join this battalion.

* * * * *

Regimental Savings Banks are to be finally closed on the 1st April in accordance with the latest *hukim* from the Government of India. To such men as may wish to transfer their accounts to the Post Office Savings Bank, the higher rate of interest authorised by rules of Military Savings Banks as well as regulation of deposits with reference to yearly and total limits allowed by those rules, will be secured.

* * * * *

The fire alarm sounded on Friday evening, 7th March, and resulted in a very smart turn-out of the Battalion. The scene of the fire was the Kidderpore Docks, and "H" Company, under its officers, was quickly despatched there with a hand machine, to render assistance if required. The remainder of the battalion were then dismissed.

That the assistance given by "H" Company was of a satisfactory nature is evident from the following extract from a letter to the Commanding Officer from the Vice-Chairman of the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta :—

"On behalf of the Port Commissioners I have the honor to tender you their best thanks for your

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kindness is despatching a company of your regiment so promptly to the scene of a fire which took place at the Docks on Friday last, and I have also to ask you to convey their thanks to the officers and men for the valuable assistance rendered by them.

"I understand that the owners of the flat will compensate the men, otherwise I should have submitted this question for the consideration of the Commissioners."

* * * * *

An honour which seldom falls to the lot of a regiment serving in India was lately extended to us by our countrywomen in Calcutta. The occasion was an entertainment organised by the ladies of the two Scottish churches which took place in the Town Hall on the 13th March and resulted in a magnificent success. Everything was done in a most superb manner, and it is perhaps needless to say that the kind and hearty welcome extended to the Battalion was fully appreciated by all ranks. A full account of the proceedings appears on another page.

* * * * *

Major Aitken, who is now at home on leave, has been appointed 2nd-in-command of the 4th Battalion, Royal Garrison Regiment at Malta, and expects to join his new appointment shortly. We are very pleased to hear of Major Aitken's promotion though sorry to lose him from the Battalion. "G" Company especially, with whom he was exceedingly popular, will be sorry to lose him. Major Aitken has served all his time in this Battalion with the exception of a few years spent as an Adjutant of Volunteers. He received his commission as 2nd-Lieutenant in the 93rd Highlanders on 9th July, 1879; appointed Adjutant, 12th of January 1881; Lieutenant, 1st July, 1881; Captain, 21st of November, 1888; Major, 21st December, 1898.

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We publish in this number a letter from a correspondent with the First Battalion in South Africa, commenting on the letters from a Boer Prisoner which appeared in one of our recent issues. The letter is well written and we venture to hope that it will not be our correspondent's last effort to provide copy for the "Thin Red Line."

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Another letter which appears in this number is from one of the now few surviving heroes who fought in the ranks of the Ninety-Third under its old historic chief, Lord Clyde, better known to fame, perhaps, as Sir Colin Campbell. Our correspondent, Color-Sergeant Hutton, is a well-known member of the 93rd Highlanders' Association and we welcome his letter and the promise to send us an anecdote of Sir Colin and himself as a step in the direction of making the regimental paper what it should be, representative of all ranks of the Ninety-Third Highlanders both past and present.

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2nd-Lieutenant L. S. C. Cheape on joining the battalion has been posted to "F" Company.

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The Fyzabad Mounted Infantry detachment rejoined head-quarters on 16th March after a very successful course. The Ranikhet detachment, consisting of Captain R.B. Graham and 71 N. C. O's and men rejoined a fortnight later, on the 30th March.

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Swimming parades have been very frequent of late, and needless to state are much preferred to any other form of parade. Classes for the instruction of non-swimmers have been formed under capable instructors of the natatory art and great progress is being made. The swimming bath is a covered in part of the moat about 80 yards long and affords reasonable facilities for swimming competitions, a branch of sport which has been much neglected of late years.

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The battalion was practised in manning the Fort on 14th March and a few nights later night operations took place on the *maidan*. The latter event was chiefly notable for the introduction of a new factor in night manœuvres, regimentally at any rate,—the Cyclist Scout.

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A recent article on "Records and Badges of the British Army" which appeared in the "Military Mail" contained the following allusion to our badge:—

The Eating-House Trade Mark.

We will next take a trip to Scotland, the home of the best and brightest badges in our Army. The Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland, Highlanders have an elaborate design on their bonnets. In my perhaps flippant way of putting it, a wreath of thistles surrounds a boar's head and a mountain cat is surmounted by a Princess's coronet. The boar's head is the crest of the Argyle family, and the main of the other emblems belong to the Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne). I hasten to explain this for fear certain readers should imagine the design was copied from some London eating-house. Why "Argyll" is spelled with two "i's" in the regiment's title I know not. Can somebody enlighten me?

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One of the principal topics of the month has of course been the proposed increase of the soldier's pay. The increase of 2*d.* a day which takes effect from 1st April will be very welcome indeed. The further increase of 6*d.* per diem is to be granted from 1st April 1904. Under the new conditions of enlistment men will be enlisted first for three years' colour service, but after two years service they will be given the option of volunteering to prolong their service to eight years, receiving 6*d.* extra under certain

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conditions. Good Conduct pay and Musketry prizes will be abolished; a man's pay in future depending chiefly on his professional efficiency.

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On the 18th March the Battalion formed the Guard of Honour at the ceremony of unveiling the bronze statue of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, erected on the *maidan* to the south of Government House. The regiment, carrying both colours, was drawn up in line on the Red Road facing the statue under the command of Colonel Campbell, while the remainder of the troops in garrison, and the Calcutta Volunteers were formed up in rear, under Brigadier-General Leach, C.B. His Excellency the Viceroy, Lord Curzon, was received with a Royal Salute and after a few preliminary speeches performed the unveiling ceremony. An Imperial salute of 101 guns was then fired by the 36th Field Battery, R. A., and the Port Defence Volunteers, on the conclusion of which the troops presented arms and the massed bands played the National Anthem. On the way back to the Fort the battalion marched past the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Power Palmer, who was stationed with his staff at the corner of the Red Road.

* * * * *

From Major Middleton, now on service in South Africa, and to whom we are indebted for many favours in the past, we have received an account of the doings of our 3rd Battalion since the embodiment at Stirling last January until a recent date. From DeAar, Cape Colony, on 1st March, Major Middleton writes:—

"Herewith a few notes for the *Thin Red Line*. I will try and keep you posted up in our doings if you like. Many of our men are now in your ranks and I thought it would interest them. The country here is very sandy and much like Mian Meer as regards dust-storms.

Wishing all good wishes to the old 93rd."

We are only too pleased to receive Major Middleton's contributions and can assure him that his accounts of the experiences of our gallant and patriotic 3rd Battalion will be eagerly read.

* * * * *

The summer has now commenced, the event being officially recognised by the order for the *punkahs* to commence swinging on the 24th March. Previous to this there had been a gradual awakening to the fact by the substitution of summer clothing for the sweat-producing garments of the cool season—we can hardly lay claim to Calcutta having a winter season. The creaking of the *punkahs* and the vicious hum of the energetic mosquito are now well-known sounds in the land, and the stewing process, a necessary adjunct of every well-regulated Indian summer, has begun.

Brigadier-General C. R. Townley has assumed temporary command of the Presidency District during the absence on leave of Brigadier-General Leach. A brigade ceremonial parade introduced our new Brigadier to his new command.

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Color-Sergeants Chaplin and Gunn have proceeded home on a well-earned furlough. We wish them both the best of luck and a quick passage home.

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The news of the passing away of so many of those grand old veterans of the regiment, which has taken place during the last few months, will be received with more than a passing sense of regret by the present-day members of the old Ninety-Third. The late Earl of Perth, as most of our readers know, had for many years been known as the "Father of the Regiment," a title accorded him as being the oldest living member of the Regiment. To Colonel Gordon-Alexander we are indebted for the cutting from the *London Standard* referring to the death of the Earl of Perth; and to Colour-Sergeant Bush, now Sergeant Instructor of Dumbartonshire Volunteers, for some of the other cuttings, which are taken from Scottish papers. To Private McNair, now en route to South Africa, we respectfully offer our sympathy on his recent bereavement. His father was a well-known and much-respected member of the Edinburgh Branch of the 93rd Highlanders' Association, and one who proved himself a true friend to many an old 93rd man when trouble had overtaken them and assistance was required. To have served in the ranks of the Ninety-third was the strongest claim on his friendship and to such a deaf ear was never turned.

* * * * *

We have received a copy of the 14th Annual Report of the West of Scotland Branch of the National Association for the employment of reserve and discharged soldiers and are glad to see by it that the Society has had such a prosperous year. From 1st October 1900 to 30th September 1901, out of a total of 548 registrations, 421 men have obtained permanent situations and 120 men temporary situations. Since 6th May, 1887, permanent situations have been found for 2,015 men and temporary situations for 1,294 men. Through the exertions of the Secretary, Captain A. McRae, and other officials of the Association a large number of employers of labour have generously promised to re-instate the reservists now in South Africa, and many of them returned have been so reinstated. In the return, by corps, of the men for whom employment has been found since the date of formation of the Society, we notice the large number of 165 Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 58 of whom were placed in employment during the past year.

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The Association is supported entirely by voluntary contributions, membership being fixed at £3 3*s.* for life and 5*s.* upwards for annual subscribers. Although the financial position of the Society is highly satisfactory, funds are always required to carry on the work, and, we feel sure this Association, which is solely for the benefit of soldiers, will obtain support from the rank and file of the regiment. Intending subscribers, if they so desire, can send their subscriptions through the Adjutant who will be pleased to forward the money to Colonel Outram, 1st V. B. Highland Light Infantry, the Treasurer of the Association.

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We have been asked by Messrs. Contts and Co., Army, Shipping and Passenger Agents, to call attention to their "Soldier's Express Service," full particulars of which appear in our advertising columns. Messrs. Contts' advertising cards may also be seen in the Outram Institute, Army Temperance Room, and Corporals' room.

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The N. W. Frontier.

—o—

(*From the "Civil and Military Gazette."*)

If you on the Frontier are serving, from Quetta right up to Peshawar,
Come listen, my son, to my counsel, I learned in Frontier lore!
Hast thou business within Peshawar City? Then ride thou in like a man;
Thou art safe—if *Allah* so pleases, and thy life hath not run its due span.
If in the bazaar thou art walking, and hearest the cry of "*Din, Din.*
Il Allah, Fateh Muhammad," remember 'its death to be seen!
Thou fool! Dost thou deem thou canst stand against the wild Ghazi's mad rush?
Dost thou think that that wild, whirling talwar so light from thy head thou canst brush?
Ask of them that stood firm at Landakai, when the Ghazis charged down to the plain,
And in one red burial blent together fell slayer and slain!
Dost thou walk in Peshawar at midnight, forget not to carry a light;
'Tis as well not to die by own friends' hands, and the sentries will shoot thee on sight!
If in Fort Jamrud thou art quartered, 'mid the heat of the Khyber's grey dust,
Place thy head in the mouth of a leopard, but never a Shinwari trust!
Thou art ordered unto the Swat Valley, and me thinks it pleaseth thee well;
Forget not, though the valley be Heaven, the Swatis are fiends from Hell!
If a Swati speak kindly unto thee, and ask thee into his place.
Sit with thy back to the wall, 'tis well to meet death face to face.
If thou meet in the Vale with a Swati, and his hand 'neath the *chamis* is placed,
Open thine eyes, oh! my son, the home of the *chara's* the waist!
Doth a maiden appear to thee lovely, but the *burka* concealeth her grace,
Yet maids are the same the world over turn thou back, thou shalt yet see her face.
If a maiden show favour unto thee, praise *Allah* but breathe not a word,
What loveliness is there in death, and every Pathan has a sword!
Lo! the Mahsuds have sent in a jirgah, and bid thee come forth, eat and drink;
Was it vain that blind folly at Maizar? Will that memory not make thee shrink?
Do the Politicals tell thee the Border is quiet as the day?
Udny th' unready remember, and gird up thy loins for the fray!
Do they prate of the Mehtar of Chitral, and "our trusted ally" Khan of Dir?
Yet the wind on the mountains is blowing, and Umra Khan may be near!
Dost thou deem the Pathan cannot fight, at the last touch of peril will fail?
Get thee down and ask at Mardan, "God's Own Guides" tell a different tale;
When their Colonel lay wounded and dying, and the bullets were flying like hail,
And behind ev'ry rock lay a foeman, and the cheek of the bravest grew pale.
Up sprang the Afridis from cover, their Subhedar shouting "Charge home!"
See, boys, there your Colonel lies dying, but, by God, he shan't perish alone.
If an Afridi shall serve thee, and eat of thy salt and thy bread,
Hail him as freeman and brother, thy life is as safe as his head!
Aye, they prate of the North-Western Frontier, that thou carri'st thy life in thy hand,
Yet *Allah* hath writ on his forehead the *kismat* befalling each man.
Thou may'st sicken and die in Calcutta, or perish in distant Madras,
Fade away 'neath the pine-trees of Simla, or on Ootacamund's fresh green grass;
Yet, ah, the wild Frontier is better, when thy life hath run its due span.
And the cup of thy fate is filled up, 'tis better to die like a man,
With the scent of the turf in thy nostrils, and the gleam of the sword in thine eyes,
And thy glazing glance fixed on the mountains, ah, blest is the man who so dies!
Then here's to the North-Western Frontier, the rock and the crag and the fen!
For this thing at least praise thou *Allah*, by God thou art fighting with men!
Even such is my counsel, my son, yet one thing ponder thou well,
Whatsoever is writ on thy forehead, will befall, be it Heaven or Hell.

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YOUNG HERO'S DEATH-CRY.

Mr. Fitchett, in the "Cornhill," gives an instance in the Relief of Lucknow of the courage of a young sailor. As the men ran up their guns to the walls of the Shah Nujeef, Forbes Mitchell says he saw a sailor lad, just in front of him, who had his leg carried clean off by a round shot, which struck him above the knee.

"He sat bolt upright on the grass, with the blood spouting from the stump of his leg like water from the hose of a fire engine, and shouted:

"Here, goes a shilling a day, a shilling a day. Remember Cawnpore, 93rd, remember Cawnpore! Go at them beauties, and then laid down and died."

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The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

—o—

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE TOWN HALL.

(*From the Englishman.*)

Thoroughness is characteristic of the Scotch, and there could be no mistaking the genuine heartiness of the welcome extended to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders on their being invited to an entertainment arranged in their honour at the Town Hall last evening. The arrangements were appropriately made by the two Scotch Churches, and not alone the pastors and officials, but the members of the congregations, the ladies particularly, threw themselves heart and soul into the matter, with the result that a magnificent success was secured. The kilted Highlanders in their summer coats of white pretty well filled the centre seats of the hall, but there were present also a number of civilian guests in addition to the working committee and the ladies who rendered such valuable help in handing round refreshments to the soldier laddies. A word of praise is due to those responsible for the charming decorations and arrangement of the platform, the entrance and other parts of the hall, which looked simply superb. An admirable programme of a delightfully varied character was provided for the men's amusement. Miss Grimson and Miss Banks-Gwyther contributed solos on the pianoforte, and Mrs. Apcar, Miss Elworthy and Mr. MacMahon were the vocalists. Mrs. King contributed a stirring recitation and Mr. A. O. Henry an amusing impersonation. Mr. Denton gave a cornet solo, Miss Peterson a solo on the violin and an automatic piano player lent by Messrs. Hobbs and Co. reeled off a fine selection. A comic sketch by Miss Veda Havelock and Mr. Harold Carlyle of the Hellers Company proved a very popular item, and, in fact, the whole programme was thoroughly enjoyed.

During an interval the Rev. Mr. Scott announced that His Excellency the Viceroy had written through his Secretary to express his regret at his inability to accept an invitation to be present. Sir Power Palmer, the Commander-in-Chief, who was present, together with Lady Power Palmer, had kindly acquiesced to their request to address the men. (Applause.)

ADDRESS BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

H. E. the Commander-in-Chief then spoke as follows:—Sutherland Highlanders,—I am sure you all fully appreciate the kind and hearty welcome that you are receiving from the good people of Calcutta, and I trust that while you remain in the Capital of India you will by good conduct prove yourselves worthy of it.

When our troops began to trickle back from South Africa and the people of London made ready to welcome and entertain them, Lord Roberts in a letter to the "Times" expressed a hope that, in the kindness of their hearts, the Londoners would not demoralise them with strong drinks. I am glad that your hosts to-night have tippled you only on tea (cheers), and I trust that in future friendly intercourse you may be able to enjoy yourselves equally sedately, and so keep up the good name of your grand Regiment, and be true to its best traditions. There are many temptations in a big city like Calcutta, of which you are well aware, so I hope you will look after yourselves and not fill the Hospital, as I should like to see the Sutherland Highlanders turn out as strong as possible at the Coronation ceremonies on the 1st of January next year at Delhi (applause). It is a pity that a Scotch Commander-in-Chief is not addressing you to-night, but if I was not an Irishman I would like to be a Scotchman! (Applause.) You may have heard of how an Englishman and a Frenchman who were having a drink together got so friendly and affectionate that the Frenchman said: "If I was not a Frenchman I should like to be an Englishman!" The Englishman replied: 'M'yes, If I was not an Englishman I should' like to be one!" (laughter) but, honestly, if I were not an Irishman I should love to be a Scotchman (cheers). The last Commander-in-Chief was a Scotchman, and his predecessor was an Irishman, and I can remember when the old Colonel of the 93rd—Lord Clyde—was Chief out here. We all loved the grand old soldier, and I will tell you a story about him that you possibly may not have heard. When in the Crimea commanding the Highland Brigade, Sir Colin Campbell, as he then was, was outside his tent with a Russian officer, a prisoner of war on parole. The Scots Greys were held in holy awe by the Russians, I may remark—Well, the Russian officer, looking at some of the Sutherland lads, the old 93rd, asked Sir Colin "Who are those old women in petticoats!" The old Chief, who was pretty quick on occasion, replied: "They are the wives of the men who ride the grey horses!" (Cheers and laughter.) I will not detain you longer from listening to the delightful items on the programme, and will conclude by again hoping that, while in Calcutta, you will show your appreciation of the welcome that you are receiving by behaving as good British soldiers should. (Applause.)

Mr. Forbes-Mitchell also addressed a few words to his "old comrades of the 93rd" telling them a short personal reminiscence of Sir Colin Campbell, and promising to give them an evening's talk over Mutiny days in the Hall of the Scotch Kirk at an early date.

Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell said:—I am requested by all ranks of the Highlanders to thank you for the very great honour you have done us by inviting us here this evening, and the splendid hospitality with which you have entertained us. When we marched into Fort William six weeks

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ago we knew we should meet many of our countrymen in Calcutta, but little anticipated we should experience so much friendliness, kindliness and hospitality as have been showered upon us on all sides. The Sutherland Highlanders have only once been in Calcutta and then merely passed through on their way up-country to engage in the suppression of the great Mutiny. Mr. Forbes-Mitchell has graphically described how the Scotchmen of all degrees in Calcutta rushed out to welcome and refresh the Highlanders as they passed by. I can only say that I am sure all the soldiers here, who are the descendants as it were of the men of the 1857 Mutiny days, will agree with me that an interval of over 40 years has in no way diminished the hospitality of the Scotchmen of Calcutta. (Applause.) Before I conclude I wish to say, and I know I am expressing the feelings of every soldier in the room when I state that wherever we go and wherever our fortunes may lead us we shall never forget and never cease to be grateful for the kindly thought which prompted you to invite us here this evening. (Loud cheers)

The proceedings terminated with "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the King."

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3rd A. and S. Highlanders.

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DE AAR CAMP, CAPE COLONY,
1*st March* 1902.

Colonel the Duke of Montrose, K.T., A.D.C., having received orders to embody the Battalion for active service in South Africa, the embodiment was carried out on the 6th January, when the Battalion moved from Stirling to Maryhill Barracks, Glasgow. About 180 volunteers from the 4th Battalion were received, and on the 24th January the battalion standing about 930 all ranks was inspected by G. O. C., Scottish District, who highly complimented the battalion on the record manner of embodiment and its good conduct. On the 31st the battalion left Maryhill *en route* for Southampton in three special troop trains *viâ* Cal. and S. W. Railways. The first train was under the command of Colonel the Duke of Montrose, K.T., A.D.C., the second under Major A. H. Middleton and the third under Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. Colquhoun: on arriving early next morning at Southampton, each detachment was immediately embarked on board, H. M. T. Canada, No. 69 (Captain E. Maddox, Commander of the Dominion Line). A number of old officers of the battalion came to see their old corps sail, *viz.*, the Marquis of Ailesbury. Earl of Cardigan, D. S. O., Captain R. B. White, Captain A. E. Orr Ewing, &c., also Colonel V. Chater, late 1st Battalion. Telegrams wishing all success to the battalion, were received from H. R. H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, Lieutenant-General Sir A. Hunter, Commandant Scottish District, Colonel P. D. Trotter and Officers, 91st R. D., and many others. The Canada sailed amidst the cheers of the spectators at 3-30 P.M., having on board, besides the battalion, the 4th Durham Light Infantry under Colonel Lambert and various details, amongst whom was Colonel Bethune, formerly 92nd Highlanders. After a good passage to Las Palmas, which was reached on the 6th, the voyage was continued in smooth sea to Capetown where the battalion disembarked on the 20th and marched to Greenpoint Camp. The disembarking strength was 923 all ranks, being one of the strongest Militia Battalions arriving at Capetown. The next day the battalion proceeded to various station as follows, *viz.*—

Head-quarters, "B" "C" and "E" Companies to De Aar.

"A" Company to Beaufort, West from Fraserburg.

"D" Company to Sutherland (very appropriate place).

½ "G" to Durban Road.

"F," "H" and ½ "G" Companies under Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. Colquhoun to Simmontown to guard Boer prisoners.

Head-quarters arrived at De Aar at 11.45 P.M. on the 23rd and disentrained next day at 7 A.M, and marched to camp on a spot reminding the writer very much of Dustipore near Lahore. On the 25th "C" and "E" Companies left for Blockhouse duties on the main line between Delfontein and Minfontein; as a Commando had crossed the line a few nights previously owing to slackness on part of those on guard. So far the *shikar* has been two cows and one horse shot at night. Orders are to shoot at all you hear moving at night, so the puir beasties suffered in a glorious cause.

The health of the battalion is excellent and all ranks are wishing for a brush with Jan van Boer to relieve the dullness of garrison life. There are a good many old 2nd Battalion men in our ranks, which naturally gives the writer much pleasure The more the better. Many non-commissioned officers and men of the old 93rd came to Maryhill Barracks on the day the battalion left, to wish their old comrades God speed and one came some distance to Southampton to do likewise. Bravo "Esprit de Corps." A. H. M.

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THE UNION JACK.

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On April 12, 1606, exactly 295 years ago, the Union Jack first made its appearance. It was James I who added the Scottish Cross of St. Andrew,—in consequence of differences having arisen between English and Scottish ships at sea, and it was he who gave the flag its name. James generally signed his name "Jacques," and some think this originated the term "Jack;" it may, however, have been from the Spanish for coat, "Jaco," as knights wore a little coat or jacket over their armour with distinguishing marks on them. The Cross of St. George was introduced as England's battle-flag by Richard I when he returned from Palestine.

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Notes from the South African Draft.

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DEOLALI,
7th March 1902.

I hope the following notes may be of use to you. As you are aware the draft was due to sail in the Bavarian, from Bombay, on 10th March, but I do not know how we are going to manage that as I hear the Bavarian is only four days out of Durban now. It will probably be about the 25th at any rate before we set sail, that is, unless they manage to find another boat for us. It is really a great disappointment for everyone, as we are heartily sick of this place.

The camp itself is not very clean owing to the small chance it has had of a rest during the last few months, and to make matters worse we are packed sixteen in a tent, the floors of which are inches thick in filthy black dust. The heat is getting unendurable too. I do not know how many degrees of heat are registered here daily, but do not be surprised if you hear that we have melted away. The troops are behaving themselves very well; we have had no crime in our draft up to the present.

Football is the principal recreation down here and the draft has played a few matches. The first was a friendly with the Royal Scots and ended in a draw of one goal each. The others were played in a tournament which is now going on, but I am sorry to say that our draft is out of it now. We were drawn against the South Lancashire Regiment in the first round. Two matches were played, the first ending in a draw of one goal each and the second in a victory for ours with the very creditable score of five goals to love. The only other match of interest to us in the first round was the one between the East Lancashire and the Border Regiment, which ended in a win for the latter by one goal to love.

Our opponents in the second round were the South Wales Borderers, and the result was defeat for our team by three goals to one. The team was composed as follows:—

Goal—Carter; *Backs*—Kennedy, Watson; *Half-backs*—Mossman, Soutar, Hudghton; *Forwards*—Geddes, Clements, Jamieson, Leitch, McGregor.

We had a fairly good team as you will see from the above list of names, so the result was somewhat of a surprise. Our chaps really played well too and had very hard lines in not scoring more goals. The whole of the first half they had to contend against a strong wind, with the sun in their eyes and play uphill. Luck seemed to be dead agaist them. I should have mentioned that the tournament was for a prize of Rs. 66.

Another item I may mention was the acceptance by Mossman of a challenge from one of the South Wales Borderers to run a quarter of a mile for 60 rupees a side. I am sorry I cannot give you the other chap's name; however he seemed to be a great favourite in his own regiment, and with one or two others, as they backed him for a considerable amount. The race came off at 7 P.M., Mossman getting well away and eventually beating his man by over fifteen yards—a pretty good indication as to the superiority of Mossman. It was almost dark when the race was run, so I am unable to give you the correct time, but it was done in fairly good time at any rate. I have heard it was 55 seconds.

The draft from "Blighty" has arrived here. There are 47 with it, and it seems to be composed of a fairly good lot of youngsters.

I have exhausted my stock of news now, so will conclude. Expect more next time.

H. B.

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Letter to the Editor.

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WITH THE 1st BATTALION IN SOUTH AFRICA.
WILGERIVER, *12th February* 1902.

SIR,—I see in the issue for December 1901 of the *Thin Red Line* two letters from a Boer prisoner captured by Colonel Benson on the 31st August 1901. Perhaps it may be of some interest to your readers to know, if they don't know already, that the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders are the men he mentions as being his escort, and the officer is Captain Paton of the Volunteer Company. The Volunteer Company and "C" Company were the two Companies that accompanied the mounted men on that night. We marched about 24 miles between ten o'clock at night and five the next morning, and we felt quite "chippy" when we heard firing in front, because we knew that our wearisome march was at an end. As soon as we got near the farm, the mounted men made a flanking movement to the right and left, and we marched straight on in skirmishing order and so surrounded the place. There were a few Boers with waggons got away before we got up, and we saw them in in the distance. Some mounted men went after them and soon brought them back. We captured altogether 13 prisoners, 2 wounded, about 20 waggons and Cape carts, and a lot of cattle and horses. After we had our breakfast and a few hours' rest we commenced our march back to camp. We had not marched a mile before some of the Boers who had escaped came back and began sniping at our rear guard and flanks. They followed us up until we came in sight of the remainder of the Battalion with the convoy. You might ask your Boer correspondent the next time you see him if he has still got the tin pannikin that one of our men made for him. Hoping this will be of interest to you and your readers.

W. C.,
1st A. and S. H.

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A VETERAN OF THE CRIMEAN AND MUTINY CAMPAIGNS.

GLASGOW, 18*th February* 1902.

SIR,—Having come across a copy of the *Thin Red Line* I was quite delighted with the information contained in the same, and being one of the oldest of the old 93rd Highlanders alive, having joined the regiment in 1847, a few recollections of the old days will perhaps not be amiss. I believe I am the only one now alive who formed the first Guard of Honour to the Queen in 1848 when she landed at Aberdeen. I am in possession of the principal officers' autographs who served through the Crimean Campaign of 1854-55, which at one time I thought of leaving to the Sergeants' Mess. The autographs I obtained when orderly, conveying despatches to the front at Sebastapole. I was in Shahjehanpur in 1858-59 hunting up rebels under Brigadier Colin Troup, and served all the time the regiment was in India, and hard times we had. Perhaps some day, if spared, I will give you a true story of myself and the late Sir Colin Campbell, which took place in the Crimea on the 24th October 1854. You will pardon me, an old veteran using such liberties, but my heart is always with the old "Thin Red Line." My sight is bad, so excuse writing and composition.

Yours very truly,
(2184) JAMES H HUTTON,
Late Color-Sergeant, 93rd Highlanders.

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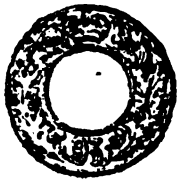

Depot Notes.

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The following appeared in a recent Gazette:—His Majesty has been pleased to accept the voluntary offer made by the undermentioned Militia Battalion to serve at a station out of the United Kingdom, *viz.*, 3rd Battalion, Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders).

The Duke of Montrose, who has gone out to South Africa in command of the 3rd Battalion, was formerly a Lieutenant in the 5th Lancers. He is an Aide-de-Camp to the King.

Quarter-Master Sergeant McLachlan and Color-Sergeants Usher and Jackson, Permanent Staff of the 4th Battalion, have been granted the medal for long service and good conduct.

Sergeant J. McLurg, 2nd Battalion, Black Watch, has been appointed Band-Master of the 91st in succession to the late Mr. Hill, whose death occurred a short time ago at Belfast. The late Mr. Hill was a native of Stirling, being born while his father, who was also a soldier, was stationed in the castle.

Colonel Trotter had the honour of being present at the first levee held by His Majesty the King since his accession. This event took place on the 14th February at St. James's Palace.

The rejection by the Army Medical Officer at Stirling of some 26 Volunteers for the new company of Argyll and Sutherland Volunteers, owing principally to defective teeth, has given rise to a considerable amount of feeling on the part of the rejected volunteers, all of whom had been previously passed by their own Volunteer medical Officers, while many had given up their situations in order to go out to South Africa. As a result of the feeling on the subject, a re-examination of the men took place before the Principal Medical Officer, Edinburgh; Surgeon-General Beath, Stirling; Colonel Trotter, commanding 91st Regimental District, etc. The examination was impartially conducted, and only one or two men were found to fulfil the requirements, and were passed as fit for service.

The *Stirling Observer* has the following:—

There may be nothing in it, but it is rather a remarkable coincidence that since the Stirlingshire Militia were mobilised for active service at the front, overtures in the direction of peace in South Africa have been made by the Dutch Government, and it would seem to give point to an observation made in the course of a speech at a social function in Stirling Castle at the New Year. The speaker—an officer—jocularly remarked that when De Wet heard that the Renfrewshire Militia (the 4th Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) were in South Africa, he told his men to keep their eye on Paisley, and no doubt when he learned that the Stirlingshire Militia were under orders for the front, peace proposals would be made. These proposals have not yet been forthcoming, but the Militia, whether it be their lot to enter the fray or simply to perform the dull prosaic routine of garrison duty, may be depended upon to do their part as soldiers and men.

There is a proposal on foot, it is stated, to make Lanark a military centre and to erect barracks on the land belonging to the burgh at the moor and racecourse, to accommodate an infantry and cavalry regiment. A thorough survey of the country round about Lanark was made about two years ago by experts and the land was found to be exactly suited for military purposes.

At a parade held at Stirling Castle recently Colonel Trotter presented the bronze medal of the Royal Humane Society to Private Smith of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders,

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for an act of great bravery at Cape Town. Private Smith, as Colonel Trotter told the troops on parade, had jumped into the harbour at Cape Town and rescued, at great risk to himself, a dock labourer who had fallen off the pier and was in danger of being crushed to death between it and the ship. Private Smith, who was in full uniform, had performed this action in cool blood and under no excitement such as is incident in deeds of valour performed in action. He considered, however, he was all the more entitled to honour, and it was with great pleasure he gave that decoration in the presence of so many young soldiers to an old soldier, who, he hoped, would long live to wear it.

The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Soldiers' Home at Stirling was informally opened on 25th February, and from the 26th the Home has been in active operation. The Mar Place House, near the castle, in which the Home is situated, has been taken on lease, and is admirably adapted for its purpose. It stands in its own grounds, and the rooms are all large and well lighted. On the ground floor are the dining, recreation, reading and writing rooms, and on the second floor there is a large sleeping room containing four beds, and another room for married people, besides rooms for the lady superintendent, etc. Miss Mackie is acting as *interim* lady superintendent of the Home. Great praise is due to Colonel Trotter and the Committee for the good use they have made of the limited amount of time at their disposal.

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Sergeants' Mess Notes.

The members of the Warrant Officers and Staff Sergeants' Club invited the Sergeants of ours to a trial of skill in the manipulation of billiard cues, cards, and tennis bats, during the past month, and succeeded in wiping our teams out in the two latter events, though we managed to more than hold our own in the former. The competitions, which lasted for several days, were celebrated on the evening of the last day by a smoking concert. A return series of competitions is being arranged by our Mess to come off some time in April.

The tennis courts are not yet ready for playing on, but they probably will be in good condition about the middle of April.

The loss of so many members during the last six months has somewhat demoralised all our sporting teams, but we hope to make a much better show next time we engage our late opponents.

FRENCH ARMY.—Non-commissioned officers in the French Army are distinguished by stripes on the lower part of both sleeves. A sergeant-major has two gold stripes, a sergeant one gold stripe, and a corporal two scarlet stripes. A quartermaster-sergeant or quartermaster-corporal has, in addition, a gold stripe on the upper part of each arm.

The following Proclamation by ex-President Steyn, issued on the day of the Boer Ultimatum, and distributed to the Burghers of the Free State, both in Dutch and English, should be of interest.

A CALL TO ARMS !!!

APPEAL TO THE BURGHERS.

TO RISE AS ONE MAN.

"*Against the Oppressor and Violator of Justice*"

FROM THE PRESIDENT.

A *Gazette Extraordinary*, was published on Wednesday night, containing the following stirring appeal to the burghers of the Orange Free State:—Burghers of the O. F. State. The time which we had so earnestly desired to avoid the moment has come that we as a people are forced with arms to oppose ourselves to wrong and shameful violence. Our Sister Republic to the North of the Vaal is being attacked by an

UNSCRUPULOUS ENEMY

who for several years past has prepared himself and sought a pretext for the act of violence of which he renders himself now guilty. Whose object it is to destory the Afrikander people. To our Sister Republic we are not only connected by the bonds of blood, of sympathy, and of a common interest, but we are also obliged by a formal Treaty necessitated by circumstances to go to her assistance, in case she should be, as unfortunately we had only too good reason to believe she would be unrighteously assailed. We cannot, therefore, passively look on while she is being wronged and our own dearly bought liberty is endangered, but are called upon as men to offer resistance, relying upon the Almighty in the firm belief that he will never permit injustice and unrighteousness to prevail.

When we thus oppose a powerful enemy with whom we have ever desired to live in amity, in spite of injustice and unrighteousness suffered by us in the past at his hands, we declare solemnly and, as in the presence of the Most High,

THAT WE HAVE BEEN DRIVEN THERETO

by the injustice done to our kindred and by the consciousness that with the discontinuance of their independence our own existence as an independent people will be but a meaningless thing, and that their fate, should they have to succumb to an overwhelming force, will also become ours at no distant period. Solemn agreements have not served as a protection to our Sister Republic against annexation, against conspiracy, against a claim being made to a lapsed suzerainty, against constant oppression and interference, and now against a renewed attack which aims at nothing else but her downfall.

Our own unfortunate experience has also made it sufficiently clear to us that no faith is to be placed on the most solemn promises and engagements of Great Britain when it has a Government at helm which is prepared to override treaties and

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to find

HYPOCRITICAL PRETEXTS

for every violation of good faith committed by her. To these things testify the uncalled-for and illegal British intervention when we had subdued an armed and barbarous black race on our Eastern Border, and also the forcible usurpation of dominion over a portion of our territory where a discovery of diamonds had excited the desire for the acquisition thereof although in conflict with existing treaties. And the desire and intention to trample upon our rights as a Sovereign and Independent People, in spite of a solemn Convention existing between this State and Great Britain, have recently again been exhibited more than once by the Government at present in power in England by giving expression in public documents to an unfounded claim of Paramountcy over the whole of South Africa, and, therefore, over this State.

As regards the South African Republic furthermore, Great Britain has up to the present day refused to agree to her re-acquiring her original status with respect to foreign relations, a status which she forfeited by no fault of her own. The original meaning of Conventions to which that Republic had agreed under stress of circumstances has been distorted and presistently used by the present British Administration as a means of exercising

TYRANNY AND MALTREATMENT,

and amongst others as a means of supporting a seditious pro-British propaganda within the Republic.

And whilst for past wrong doings on the part of the British Government no such reparation as justice demanded has been forthcoming and whilst no gratitude has shown for the clemency extended at the desire of that Government to British subjects, who under the laws of the Republic had forfeited their lives and goods, no feeling of shame has restrained them, now that gold mines of enormous wealth have been discovered within the country, from making demands upon that Republic the effect of which, if granted, would be those who have, or whose forefathers have rescued the country from barbarism and won it for civilization and light with their

BLOOD AND THEIR TEARS,

shall lose that amount of control over the affairs of the country to which they are legitimately entitled to according to Divine and Human Laws, and that the preponderance of power shall be placed in the hands of those who being aliens by birth yet enjoy the privilege of depleting the country of its most valuable asset, while they have never yet shown any loyalty but loyalty to a Foreign Government.

Moreover, the inevitable result of compliance with those demands would be that the independence of the country as a self-governing, self-dependent Sovereign Government would be irretrievably lost.

For a long time large bodies of British troops have been placed on the borders of our Sister Republic, to intimidate it into acquiescence with such demands as might be made upon it, and to encourage a seditious agitation and the evil machinations of those whose lust of gold is the mainspring of their shameful enterprises. These machinations have now culminated in the open violence now resorted to by the present British Government.

Whilst we candidly admit the

HONOURABLE CHARACTER

of thousands of Englishmen who abhor such acts of spoliation and wrong we cannot help denouncing the flagrant breaches of treaties, the hypocritical pretexts for wrong doing, the violation of international rights and justice, and the manifold misdeeds of the British Statesmen who are now forcing war upon the South African Republic. The guilt of blood be on their heads and may a just Providence bring retribution upon those who merit it.

Burghers of the Orange Free State, rise as one Man Against the oppressor and the Violator of Justice!

In carrying on this trouble to which we are forced. let not one of your actions be otherwise than such as becomes a Christian and burgher of the Orange Free State. Let us look forward with confidence to a successful issue of the struggle, trusting in a Higher Power without whose aid human weapons are of no avail.

TO THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS

We humbly submit the Justice of Our Cause.

May He protect the right;
May He bless our arms;
Under His Banner do we draw the sword

For Freedom and for Fatherland!

This done under my hand and the Great Seal of the Orange Free State, at Bloemfontein, this 11th day of October, 1899

M. T. STEYN, *State President.*

By order,

P. J. BLIGNAUT, *Govt. Secretary.*

THE HIGHLAND BAGPIPE.

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One of the best chapters in Mr. Manson's book on "The Highland Bagpipe" is that which deals with the hereditary pipers, headed by the MacCrimmons, the pipers of Macleod of Dunvegan. The last MacCrimmon piper died in 1822. Angus MacKay, "the compiler of the first really serviceable book of pipe music," who died at Dumfries in 1859, was in Queen Victoria's service, while his nephew, Donald MacKay, was the Prince of Wales's piper. John Bane Mackenzie, the best piper of his time, was in the service of the Marquis of Breadalbane for thirty years, declining to take a post under Queen Victoria. One of his pupils, Donald Cameron, piper to the late Colonel Keith W. Stewart MacKenzie, of Seaforth, composed several first-class tunes, and gave the world four sons, all of them excellent pipers. The making of bagpipes is almost entirely confined to eight houses in Aberfeldy, Dundee, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

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Siege of Ladysmith.

—o—

1899-1900.

I certify that the following are the correct and highest prices realised at my sales by public auction during the above siege :—

LADYSMITH, JOE DYSON,
21st February 1900. *Auctionneer.*

	£	s.	d.
14 lbs. Oatmeal	2	19	6
Condensed Milk, per tin	0	10	0
1 lb. Beef Fat	0	11	0
1 lb. Tin Coffee	0	17	0
2 lb. Tin Tongue	1	6	0
1 Sucking pig	1	17	0
Eggs, per dozen	2	8	0
Fowls, each	0	18	6
4 Small Cucumbers	0	15	6
Green Mealies, each	0	3	8
Small Plate Grapes	1	5	0
1 Small Plate Apples	0	12	6
1 Plate Tomatoes	0	18	0
1 Vegetable Marrow	1	8	0
1 Plate Eschalots	0	11	0
1 Plate Potatoes	0	19	0
3 Small bunches Carrots	0	9	0
1 Glass Jelly	0	18	0
1 lb. Bottle Jam	1	11	0
1 lb. Tin Marmalade	1	1	0
1 Dozen Matches	0	13	6
1 Packet Cigarettes	1	5	0
50 Cigars	9	5	0
¼ lb. Cake "Fair Maid" Tobacco	2	5	0
½ lb. do. do. do.	3	5	0
1 lb. Sailors Tobacco	2	3	0
½ lb. Tin "Capstan" Navy Cut Tobacoe ..	3	0	0

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HERO OF THE "BIRKENHEAD."

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The following letter from Field-Marshal Lord Wolseley was received at Boston (Lincolnshire) recently in connection with a testimonial which is shortly to be presented there to Sergeant J. O'Neil, formerly of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and a "Birkenhead" troopship survivor.—"It must be a very great source of satisfaction to Sergeant O'Neil to feel that he was present when the "Birkenhead" sank 50 years ago. The news reached England at the time when I obtained my first commission in the Army. I can remember the pride all soldiers felt at the heroic conduct on the part of the soldiers upon that occasion. In all military annals it is one of the very finest instances of heroism, and the attention of young soldiers of to-day cannot be too frequently called to it. It teaches all ranks in the Army the inestimable value of military discipline, and without discipline firmly administered and thoroughly appreciated by all ranks no army is worth its salt. Please tell Sergeant O'Neil that I wish him long life and prosperity. He has already won the admiration of all who admire heroic deeds."

The Magersfontein Memorial.

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On the hill occupied by the Boers at Magersfontein there is now in the course of erection a memorial column of Aberdeen granite in memory of the men of the Highland Regiments who lost their lives in that unfortunate battle. Subscribed for by Scotsmen the world over, it is but fitting that the site selected for the moment should have been presented by a patriotic countryman also, a Mr. Bisset, on whose estate the battle was fought. The "Scotsman" the other day in a notice of the memorial gave the following details :—

It is in the shape of a Celtic cross, its total height is fully 21 feet, the base being 3 feet and the shaft 18 feet 6 inches. The carving is rich and graceful, the fine tools now in use enabling the workmen to embellish the stone as minutely and delicately as if it were wood. The interlaced ornament is more deeply cut and the boss is more highly relieved than usual, thus giving to the monument an added dignity of treatment. The extreme length of the arms of the cross is 4 feet 6 inches; an exquisite detail is the row of miniature shields resting on the chamber immediately over the die. There are the crests of the battalions which were represented in the battle—the Highland Light Infantry, the Seaforths, Argyll and Sutherland, Gordons and Black Watch. In every respect the crests are faithfully reproduced. The thistles, deer heads, tigers and ribbands down to the very smallest detail being brought out in a marvellously clear accurate and thorough artistic manner. Below them on the noble block forming the base, is cut the leaded inscription "Erected by Scots the world over, in memory of the officers and men of the Highland Regiments who fell at Magersfontein 11th December 1899." "Scotland is poorer in men, but richer in heroes."

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Departure of 3rd Battalion for South Africa.

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The 3rd (Militia) Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, under Colonel the Duke of Montrose, left Maryhill Barracks, Glasgow, on Friday afternoon, for Southampton, where they embarked on Saturday on the transport Canada for active service in South Africa.

When the call was made for volunteers the response was so gratifying that the battalion was embodied on 6th ultimo. This is all the more creditable as the regiment was only disembodied on 3rd December last after nearly two years' permanent service in Ireland. The battalion was brought up to war strength by the addition of volunteers from the 4th (Paisley) Battalion, so that the regiment leaves with a strength of 970 of all ranks.

In addition to the Duke of Montrose, the other officers going out with the regiment are :—

Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. Colquhoun (Second-in-Command); Majors A. H. Middleton, J. W. Scott-Plummer, and A. F. Mackenzie (Adjutant); Captains M. E. Rouse, J. R. M'Alpine-Downie, J. F. Jamieson, W. Home-(K. O. S. B.), Harvey Anderson (R. E.), and Baillie-Hamilton (4th A. and S. H.); Lieutenants R. M. Kerr, Lord George Dundas and W. A. Youden (3rd V.B.H.L.I.); Second-Lieutenants S. W. Cuthbert, J. M. Mackenzie, J. R. Couper, J. A. Ure (4th V. B. A. and S. H.), K. Barge, A. F Cunningham, A. M. M. Bell, J. H. R. Gibson (Q.R.V.B.), G. Cunningham and F Pearson; Quartermaster A. Beattie and Sergeant-Major W. Hardie.

A large proportion of the men belong to Glasgow and suburbs, and this to some extent accounts for the large

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crowds that congregated in the vicinity of the barracks on Friday forenoon, notwithstanding the severe weather. As the hour fixed for the departure of the troops approached the roadway in front of the barracks and Garrioch Road were packed with people.

It was decided to send the regiment away in three detachments, the first of which consisting of "C" and "D" Companies, and numbering about 300 of all ranks, under the Duke of Montrose, was timed to leave at three o'clock. Shortly after that hour, and clad in khaki, they made their exit from the Engineers' gate, headed by the brass band of the Royal Scots Fusiliers. Their appearance was the signal for loud cheers, which were again and again renewed as the men marched into the station. The work of entraining was speedily accomplished under the supervision of Captain Wishart, of the Army Service Corps, and as the train moved off from the platform the cheering was again renewed.

The second detachment, consisting of "A," "B," "E" and "F" Companies, and numbering about 350 men, under Major A. H. Middleton, appeared shortly after and had no less hearty reception from the large crowd.

The remaining Companies—"G" and "H"—numbering close on 300, were composed almost entirely of Volunteers from the 4th (Paisley) battalion. They were headed also by the Fusiliers band, and were under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. Colquhoun. The departure of this detachment was the signal for a renewal of the cheering from the large crowd that lined the railway embankment as far as Garrioch Road, the soldiers showing their appreciation by a no less hearty return.

Before leaving, the following telegram from Provost Thomson, of Stirling, was read to the men:—"The Duke of Montrose.—In name of the people of Stirling I wish you and your officers and men a prosperous voyage, every success in the field, and a safe return." The following reply was sent to Stirling:—"Provost Thomson, Stirling.—I beg to thank you on behalf of the regiment for your kind message.—MONTROSE."—*Stirling Sentinel.*

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Links with the Past.

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STIRLING BRIDGE.

Stirling Bridge stands as a landmark in the warlike history of Scotland. It was here that Wallace, in the year 1297, routed an English Army 50,000 strong, throwing it into such a panic that many were drowned in the river. It is interesting to note at this time that the *London Gazette Extraordinary* of Monday, Feb. 10, 1745, consists entirely of a despatch from Edinburgh dated February 5, referring to the bridge in yet another military connection, we read:

The Arch of Stirling Bridge, which had been broken down by General Blakeney's order, was repaired by six o'clock yesterday morning with timber (mostly provided by the rebels for the same purpose), and that day the army passed over the Bridge. The advanced guard, consisting of the Argyllshire Highlanders, and the Dragoons, went on to Creif, and the foot were cantoon'd at and about Dumblain, where his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland lay last night, and [this night his Royal Highness intended to lye at Creif, and to order his advanced guard to take possession of Perth, where he intends to be to-morrow.

The rebels in their retreat, or rather flight, divided part of them, supposed to be the clans with the pretender's son, took the road by Taybridge, and, it is said, are to retire to Lochaber; the other part of them, consisting of Lord Lewis Gordon's men, the remains of the French, Lord Ogilvie's men, their low country foot, with all their horse, got to Perth on Sunday. On Monday they began their march from thence further north, and on Tuesday they had all evacuated Perth, and are said to have taken the road to Montrose, and to have carried along with them four pieces of small Brass Cannon. Before the Rebels left Perth, they set at liberty the sailors of the Hazard Sloop, who were prisoners there; but it is believed they carried Captain Hill, the Commander of the said Sloop, and the other prisoners of distinction they had at Stirling along with them.

The Hazard Sloop sailed from Montrose on the 27th of last month, and is supposed to be gone northwards, to take up the pretender's son somewhere, possibly about the place he landed.

It is reported, that one or two more French ships have lately arrived, with money and military stores, at Peterhead; of which, and the flight of the rebels towards the East Coast, intelligence has been sent to Admiral Byng.

A letter just received from General Hawley, dated this morning at Dumblain, contains the following advice: "We are just going to march, and shall proceed to-day to Perth, or not, according to what intelligence we receive, though I believe our Argyll Highlanders, and some Dragoons, are there by this time."

Such is the entire substance of a paper which consisted of one sheet only, bore a Government stamp, and was marked "[Price Two-pence]."

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Hockey.

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The following account of some of the Hockey matches played will doubtless be of interest. We have been unable to obtain more, but hope to make such arrangements in future as will ensure a complete record of each match being kept. The season was opened on 1st March by a match with Chowringhee Athletic Club on their own ground:—

On opening play the Highlanders immediately pressed their opponents into their own territory, Mr. J. Kennedy being most conspicuous with his individual runs. Try as they could however, they could not find an opening till just on half time, when Mr. J. Kennedy scored with a very hot shot which gave the goal-keeper no chance to save. On resuming play the Chowringhee forwards immediately tested our defence and McCulloch had a pretty warm time of it for several minutes. He managed to keep his goal intact for a considerable time, but the Chowringhee men were not to be denied and a very swift high shot at close quarters, sent in by their inside left, brought the scores level. This immediately roused the Highland blood and play was fast and furious until Mr. Muirhead from a good pass by Mr. J. Kennedy put us in lead again. The leading point we kept until the whistle sounded and so ended our first game in Calcutta.

2nd XI, 93rd Highlanders v. *Calcutta Town Club.*—Having two fixtures on the same day we sent our second string to oppose the Town Club. The play was fairly even in the first half of the game though the Town Club managed to score twice. Our forwards lost chance after chance through their weakness in front of goal. Play was much better in the second half and our eleven managed to keep their opponents from adding to the score, though they could not effect anything themselves. Clark in goal was very sound, also Thomas at back.

93rd Highlanders v. *Y. M. C. A.*—This club visited the fort on 12th March to give us a game. We bullied off about 5-15 p.m., and for the first twenty-five minutes the Y. M. C. A. did all the pressing, and really had hard lines in not increasing their score of one goal before half-time. In the second portion of the game our team showed up to better advantage, and fairly outplayed the

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visitors; but they could not score. Private Russell had hard lines with a beautiful shot which missed by inches. In the last few minutes of the game the Y. M. C. A. fairly bombarded our goal, but McCulloch stood firm and shortly after the game ended in the visitors' favour by one goal to nil.

Return match with the Y. M. C. A. played on Monday, 31st March.—The visitors opened strongly, and for the first few minutes had nearly all the play, but the Highlanders, after getting settled down a bit made things warm for them. They stood no chance against the rushes of our team, and Mr. Akers-Douglas very soon opened the scoring with a very fine shot which the goal-keeper could scarcely have been expected to save. On bulleying off again some give-and-take play took place in which the Y. M. C. A.'s outside left showed some brilliant play, but Captain Campbell, our left back, proved too strong for the visiting forwards, and from one of his fine returns, Mr. Kennedy scored the second goal. Half-time arrived shortly after with the score standing Highlanders 2 goals to love. On resuming, play ruled pretty even for about the first fifteen minutes when a beautiful run by the visitors' front rank nearly ended in the downfall of our goal. McCulloch was all there, however, and saved miraculously. After this our team fairly confined the visitors to the 25 yards line, and, after a bit of scrambling in front of goal, Mr. Kennedy scored his second goal, which brought our total up to three. Nothing in particular occurred after this, and the whistle sounded soon after leaving our team victors of a hard and interesting game by 3 goals to love.

The following are the names of the team:—

Goal—McCulloch; *Backs*—Mr. Fenzie and Captain Campbell; *Half Backs*—Watt, Mr. James and Mr. Hamilton; *Forwards*—Mr. Akers-Douglas, Mr. Kennedy, Russell, McMillian, and Mr. Muirhead.

Private Thomas ably officiated as referee, and Privates Gibson and Hutton as linesmen.

Y. TENINENO.

What the Parrot is Saying.

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[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.

That he would turn oot the guard tae all loafers and unauthorised persons entering the gates.

That he would turn oot the guard tae the *Toon Cooncil*.

That the draft wis tae *embark* at Deolali.

That doe ye ken Mac——, the man that walked the plank.

That it wants tae ken a' aboat Bismark.

That something went wrong wi the works again.

That frae commander o' the Bath tae C. B. is nae promotion.

That it rode ower higher mountains than Everest at Fategarh.

That dry cen were scarce the nicht the draft left.

That it wishes them the best o' luck.

That we're gaun tae Dolbi in Marchember.

That he went tae see the Zoo and had hard lines tae get oot again.

That its jined the Bicycle Club and got a graund new bike.

That hockey is a fine game for killing mair than time.

That its a lang time since it seen a punkah swing afore.

That its getting a rise o' pay.

That we're getting it by degrees.

That he is faur-trawelled——A' roond the world in India.

That we're back tae the guid auld days again o' khaki steaks and special dinners. Guid auld "Bob."

That he hadn't a hair in his moustache.

Army Orders and Regulations.

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FOR THE DIRECTION OF MILITARY CRICKET MATCHES.

I.—Batsmen must go to the wickets in order of seniority under the regulations issued in 1868.

II.—Patterns of the uniform to be worn can be obtained only from Army Clothing Department, Pimlico.

III.—Any batsman wishing to make a stroke must state his reasons for doing so in writing.

IV.—The ball must be non-explosive, as laid down by the terms of the Geneva Convention. Soft-nosed or explosive balls are strictly prohibited.

V.—The disposition of the fieldsmen, hereinafter called the "outposts," shall be in the hands of the commander of the company, who is responsible to his commanding officer, who is responsible to the brigade-major, who is responsible to the brigadier-general.

VI.—If one of the outposts miss a catch he must report the matter to the non-commissioned officer in charge of the picket, who must report it to the officer commanding the company, who must report it to the colonel.

VII.—No alteration in the disposition of the outposts can be made without the sanction of the officer commanding troops.

VIII.—Permission to change the bowler can only be obtained through the brigadier-general, who will forward the application to the general officer in command of the division, who will forward it to the chief of-staff, who will acquaint the field-marshal of the same.

IX.—The umpires will be considered neutral, in accordance with the customs of war as laid down by the Geneva Convention (*vide* Mil. Law, sec. xiv.)

X.—Anyone disputing the decision of the umpires will be liable to be tried by a field general court-martial, and undergo the extreme penalty of the law (*vide* Mil. Law, R. 117).

XI.—A player receiving injury in the field can only retire on sick leave on the recommendation of a medical board, who will forward his application to the A.A.G., War Office.

XII.—A suspension of hostilities on any pretext whatever can only be obtained by the officers directing the operations coming to terms. Negotiations to be conducted under a white flag.—"The King."

THE MUSICAL SANDOW.

Complaints still continue to come from Natal of the British officers' musical impediments.

The minstrel boy to the war has come,
In the mobile corps you'll find him.
He's brought his best harmonium
And his Erard slung behind him.
"Proud foe," he cried, "when our corps full pelt
Across the hills shall chase yer,
One hand shall wake on the lonely veldt
A memory of the 'Geisha!'"

—"The Onlooker."

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Obituary.

The Earl of Perth and Melfort died on Friday morning, 28th February, at the Cottage, Kew. The deceased nobleman, who had lived in five reigns, was Chief of the Clan Drummond. Viscount Melfort and Perth Baron Drummond of Cargill, Baron Drummond of Stobhall and Montifex, and Baron Drummond of Richertoun, Castlemaine, and Gilstoun, all in the Peerage of Scotland; Hereditary Thane of Lennox, and Hereditary Steward of Menteith and Strathearn; Duc de Melfort, Comte de Lussan, and Baron de Valrose in France. He was born in London on May 6, 1807, was educated in France and Scotland, and joined the 93rd *Sutherland Highlanders* in 1824, becoming Captain at eighteen. He succeeded his uncle in the French honours in 1840, and in 1841 established, before the Conseil d'Etat in France and the Tribunal de la Seine, his pedigree from the Earls and Dukes of Perth and Melfort and his right of succession to the French honours of Duke of Melfort and Perth, Comte de Lussan, and Baron de Valrose. The Scottish Earldoms of Perth and Melfort were restored to him by the special command and recommendation of the late Queen Victoria by an Act of Parliament, which was unanimously passed by both Houses, and received the Royal assent on June 28, 1853. Lord Perth was married, first in 1831, to the Baroness Albertine de Rotberg, widow of General Comte Rapp, Peer of France, who died in 1842; and secondly, in 1847, to Susan Henrietta, widow of Colonel Burrowes, of Dangan Castle, Meath, and daughter of Mr. Thomas Bermingham Sewell, of Athenry, by Herriett, his wife, daughter of Lord Decies, Archbishop of Tuam. Lady Edith Drummond, his daughter by his second marriage, succeeds to the Earldom of Melfort and the French titles, his grandson by his first marriage, Lord Drummond, having died unmarried in 1887, Viscount Strathallan, his kinsman, succeeds to the title of Chief of the Clan and to the Barony of Drummond, and will succeed to the Earldom of Perth.—*London Standard.*

In Burgoyne's RECORDS the Earl of Perth's services are thus recorded:—"George Drummond ensign, 14th October, 1824; lieutenant, 8th December, 1825. When proceeding on board the 'Shipley' transport, to join headquarters of the 93rd at Antigua, being also in charge of drafts belonging to other regiments stationed in the West Indies, was completely wrecked on the Cobler rocks near the island of Barbadoes, the ship going to pieces. After a night of the greatest danger, all were saved by means of ropes passed down to them from above, the summit being inaccessible from where they were. The women having been first saved, the men followed, and, lastly, Lieutenant Drummond. Happily, no lives were lost, but no baggage could be recovered. Was promoted to an unattached captaincy on the 30th December, 1826. He subsequently became sixth Duc de Melfort, Comte de Lussan and Baron de Valrose in France, and is now Earl of Perth and Melfort in the peerage of Scotland, that title having been restored by special command and recommendation of Her Majesty, unanimously passed by both Houses of Parliament, and received the Royal assent, 28th June 1853."

Although he left the regiment soon after obtaining his captaincy, now so many years ago, the Earl of Perth continued his connection with the army until much more recently, being a Major of the 1st Middlesex (Victoria) Rifles up till 1859.

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THE LATE SERGEANT M'NAIR, QUEEN'S BRIGADE.

The funeral of Colour-Sergeant J. J. M'Nair, of the Queen's Brigade, who was well known to all frequenters of the Hunters' Bog and Malleny Rifle Ranges, takes place with military honours this afternoon. Deceased was formerly connected with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders rising to the rank of Colour-Sergeant. Thirteen years ago he was appointed range keeper, and performed the sometimes exacting duties in a most satisfactory manner. Deceased is survived by a widow and three sons and two daughters, and all his sons are serving in the army. The eldest is at present in South Africa with the 1st Battalion Royal Scotts, the second with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in India, and the third with the 3rd Royal Field Artillery. A daughter is also married to a trooper in the Scots Greys. Deceased who was 58 years of age, held the good conduct and Umbeyla medals.

The funeral took place this afternoon of the late Colour-Sergeant M'Nair, late 93rd Highlanders, from his house at 160 Easter Road. Deceased had acted as range-keeper to the Q. R. V. B., R. S., for about thirteen years, previous to which he had been instructor to the Leith Volunteers. Including the band and the firing party, considerably over 100 members of the Brigade, paraded in review order, under command of Major Cuthbert. The coffin, draped with a Union Jack, and covered with a number of beautiful wreaths, including one from Colonel H. M'Crae, and one from the permanent staff of Sergeants of the Q. V. B., R. S., was placed on a gun carriage provided by the 1st Mid-Lothian Volunteer Artillery. An exceptionally large gathering of the general public followed the cortege as it passed down Easter Road on its way to the place of interment at the Easter Cemetery. The band leading the procession played the Dead March in "Saul." At the graveside a short prayer was offered up by the Rev. J. S. M. Mowat, and the usual salute was fired over the grave.

THE LATE JAMES HOPE, 93rd.

There has just passed away one of the few remaining Crimean and Indian Mutiny heroes in the person of James Hope, late 42nd and 93rd Highlanders, aged 67. He enlisted at Edinburgh in 1855, at the age of 19, in the 42nd Royal Highlanders (Black Watch), and shortly afterwards was sent to the Crimea, where he gained the Crimean medal and bar for Sebastopol, as well as the Turkish medal. On the outbreak of the Indian Mutiny he joined the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, and was present at Lucknow, gaining the medal with bars for Lucknow and relief of Lucknow. He also held the medal for the North-West Frontier Expedition with clasp for Umbeyla. He was discharged to pension in 1876. He was a member of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders' Association from which source he received his comrades' sympathy in his declining days.

A TYPICAL SCOTTISH SOLDIER.

The remains of John Galloway, pensioner, were laid to rest the other day in Dalserf Churchyard, an ideal God's acre on one of the fairest reaches of the Clyde.

When he was barely eighteen Galloway joined that grand old Scottish regiment, the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders—the regiment on whose dauntless courage and matchless discipline the brave Sir Colin Campbell staked his military reputation when he formed them up in the historic *Thin Red Line* at Balaclava and repulsed an overwhelming force of Russian cavalry who thought to ride triumphantly over them.

Galloway was a typical Scottish soldier, and he served with his regiment throughout the Crimean Campaign and at the relief of Lucknow. Moreover, his regimental record was a remarkable one, for he served twenty-one years and four months without having a single charge preferred against him as a defaulter. Nor was he an hour off duty from sickness, wounds, or any untoward cause whatever. He was discharged with pension in 1870, and the closing years of his life were spent in the beautiful district where he first saw the light.—James Muir, Hamilton.

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THE LATE WILLIAM BUCHANAN, 93RD.

Port Glasgow, Saturday.—This forenoon a veteran of the Crimean war, named William John Buchanan, died at his residence, 13 Scott's-lane, Port Glasgow. Deceased who was 81 years of age, was a native of Londonderry, and first listed into the Royal Irish Fusiliers. At a later stage he was transferred to the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, and in this regiment he fought through the Crimean war. He formed one of Sir Colin Campbell's *Thin Red Line*, which spread out to meet the hordes of Russian horse which rode down upon them, but who reeled and fell back before the withering volleys of the gallant Highlanders. After the Crimean war he proceeded to India with his regiment, and under Sir Colin, fought through the Mutiny right up till the relief of Lucknow.

Deceased has been in Port Glasgow for upwards of thirty years, and until a few months ago, wrought in the shipbuilding yard of Messrs. Russell & Co. He was discharged from the Army before having completed his full term of twenty-one years, and had a pension of 4*d*. a day.

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Ninety-third Calendar for April 1902.

1	Tu.	On War Establishment: Russian War Scare, 1878.
2	W.	
3	Th.	Emb. W. Indies on board. "*Orestes*" and "*Marquis of Huntly*" for England, 1834.
4	F.	Arrvd. Portsmouth from Gibraltar on board "*Egypt*," 1881; to Aldershot. Headquarters left Bareilly for Chaubattia, 1898.
5	S.	Stirling to Edinburgh, 1850. Depôt of 56th Brigade (92nd and 93rd) formed at Aberdeen.
6	S.	Left Malta for Galipoli, 1854. Left Galipoli for Crimea, Troopship "*Kangaroo*," 1854. Joined General Walpole's Force for campaign in Rohilkhund, 1858.
7	M.	Furlo. draft arrived, Nowshera, 1896.
8	Tu.	
9	W.	Head-quarters arrived at Chaubattia, 1898.
10	Th.	2nd Battalion arrived at Gravesend, 1841. Annual Highland games, Nowshera, 1896. Physical Drill Shield, won by "H" Company.
11	F.	Arrvd. Galipoli from Matla, 1854.
12	S.	Tug-of-War Shield, won by "D" Company, Nowshera, 1896.
13	S.	
14	M.	
15	Tu.	Edinburgh to Glasgow, 1851.
16	W.	Bri.-Gen. Adrian Hope *k*. Royah, 1858.
17	Th.	
18	F.	"E" Company, winners of Football League, Nowshera, 1896. Inspection by Bri.-Gen. St. John Michell Fancourt, Ranikhet, 1900.
19	S.	
20	S.	
21	M.	
22	Tu.	
23	W.	2nd Battalion under Maj. William Wemyss emb. Gosport, Troopships "*William Heathcote*" and "*Mariner*" for Newfoundland, 1814.
24	Th.	
25	F.	Cape of Good Hope for England, Troopships "*Baring*" "*Preston*," and "*Norfolk*," 1814, 453 1st class A. R. joined (200 transferred to 91st) Russian War Scare, 1879,
26	S.	
27	S.	Lootwallah Scare, Nowshera, 1897.
28	M.	
29	Tu.	
30	W.	Arrvd. Shahjahanpur with Rohilkund Force, 1858.

Ninety-third Calendar for May 1902.

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1	Th.	Left Table Bay for England, 1814. Est. reduced to 33 officers, 59 Sergeants, 28 Drummers and Pipers, 40 Corporals and 480 Privates, 1872.
2	F.	Lieut.-Col. Alexander Halkett to 104th Foot, 1810, "B" Company, win Tug-of-war Shield, 1901.
3	S.	George Johnston, Lieut.-Col., 1810. Emb. at Balaclava on board "*Sphynx*" and "*Nemours*" for expedition to Kertch and Yenikale (cancelled), 1855.
4	S.	
5	M.	Battle of Bareilly, 1858. 1 man killed.
6	Tu.	"Big Sam" (Sergeant Samuel McDonald) d., 1902; he was 6 ft. 10 in. in height, and measured 48 round chest; buried in the Strangers' Cemetery, Guernsey. Arrd. Spithead from West Indies, 1834 (strength 371 N.-C. O.'s and men), Gallipoli to Scutari, 1854. Terrific hailstorm at Nowshera, 1897: hailstones 4½ in. in circumference.
7	W.	Cherat summer detachment left Nowshera, 1896.
8	Th.	Disembarked Ramsgate, from West Indies, 1834; to Canterbury, "G" Company, win Physical Drill Shield, 1901.
9	F.	
10	S.	Final Cricket Clock Tournament, Nowshera, 1897 (1st day).
11	S.	Final Cricket Clock Tournament, 1897, "B" Company winners.
12	M.	Edinburgh to Portsmouth on board *Himalaya*, 1873.
13	Tu.	"B" and "H" Companies (summer detachment) to Cherat, 1897.
14	W.	Arrd. Portsmouth from Granton, 1873; to Aldershot. Arrived Spithead from America, 1815; ordered to Cork.
15	Th.	Arrived Aldershot, 1873.
16	F.	Re-inforced at Canterbury by Depôt Companies, 1834. Punkahs commenced, Nowshera, 1896.
17	S.	Dublin for Curragh, 1877.
18	S.	Weedon for N. of England by detachments, 1835; Head-quarters, Blackburn.
19	M.	Weedon for N. of England, 1835.
20	Tu.	
21	W.	
22	Th.	Est. augmented to 800 rank and file, 1843. Again embark (ships "*Sphynx*" and "*Stromboli*") for expedition to Gulf of Kertch, 1855. New Colours presented at Dover by H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge, 1857.
23	F.	
24	S.	Queen Victoria born 1819; died 22nd January 1901.
25	S.	
26	M.	
27	Tu.	Weedon to N. of England, 1835.
28	W.	Disembarked, Cork, 1815, to Birr; re-inforced following in December, by draft from reduced 2nd battalion.
29	Th.	
30	F.	Maj-Gen. Sir John Cameron, K.C.B., Colonel to 9th Foot, 1833.
31	S.	Lt.-Gen. Sir Jasper Nicolls, K.C.B., Colonel 1833.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Corporals :—No. 5357, Lance-Corporal J. Stewart, "A" Company, ated 1st February 1902; No. 4293, Lance-Corporal G. Newell, "B" Company, dated 19th February 1902.

PAY OF RANK AND ESTABLISHMENT.

To be paid Lance-Sergeant :—No. 2343, Corporal J. Gillespie, "B" Company, dated 16th February 1902.

To be paid Lance-Corporals :—No. 6078, Lance-Corporal F. Peacock, "H" Company, dated 1st February 1902; No. 5589, Lance-Corporal T. McLaren, "G" Company, dated 1st February 1902; No. 5659, Lance-Corporal H. J. Darwood, "C" Company, dated 1st February 1902; No. 5516, Lance-Corporal G. Anderson, "C" Company, dated 1st February 1902; No. 4571, Lance-Corporal J. Hiddles, "D" Company, 1st February 1902; No. 6440, Lance-Corporal E. McElroy, "E" Company, dated 16th February 1902; No. 5673, Lance-Corporal J. Lang, "F" Company, dated 19th February 1902; No. 5561, Lance-Corporal W. Montgomery, "E" Company; and No. 6139, Lance-Corporal T. Paterson, "H" Company, dated 21st February 1902.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Garrison Provost Sergeant :—No. 2528, Sergeant D. Blair, "E" Company.

To be Pay Sergeant of "D" Company :—No. 3394, Sergeant T. Durnan, "F" Company.

To be Pay Sergeant of the Attached Section :—No. 3306, Sergeant A. Lockie, "G" Company.

To be Drill Sergeant :—No. 4567, Sergeant D. Inglis, "E" Company, dated 11th February 1902.

To be Garrison Librarian :—No. 3344, Sergeant A. Laurie, "D" Company, dated 12th February 1902.

To be Permanent Warder in Military Prison, Fort William :—No. 5180, Corporal W. Cockburn, "H" Company, dated 3rd February 1902.

To be 3rd Class Drill Instructors to the 3rd (Cadet) Battalion, Calcutta Volunteer Rifles, from 1st February 1902 :—No. 2922, Lance-Corporal J. Bertram, "F" Company; No. 5630, Lance-Corporal E. Ellis, "G" Company; No. 5618, Lance-Corporal A. McMaster, "D" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Sergeant :—No. 3378, Corporal F. Lynch, "D" Company, dated 5th February 1902.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals :—No. 5894, Private J. Ross, "D" Company, dated 1st February 1902; No. 4530, Private D. McDonald, "G" Company; No. 4531, Private C. Armour, "A" Company; and No. 4682, Private A. Gray, "H" Company, dated 10th February 1902. No. 4619, Private W. McKinnon, "G" Company, dated 18th February 1902; No. 5640, Private C. Davie, "D" Company; No. 5789, Private C. Hearn, "F" Company; and No. 6951, Private D. Macpherson, "D" Company, dated 19th February 1902; No. 4696, Private B. Harris, "B" Company, dated 28th February 1902; No. 8059, Private W. Maclay, "D" Company, dated 22nd March 1902; No. 5118, Private D. McLean, "E" Company, dated 19th March 1902; No. 5136, Private T. Dale, "C" Company, dated 8th March 1902.

To be School Assistant :—No. 4619, Lance-Corporal W. McKinnon, "G" Company.

To be Assistant Gymnastic Instructors:—No. 5551, Lance-Corporal M. Montgomery, "E" Company; No. 4094, Private E. Mitchell, "F" Company; No. 5969, Private J. Thomson, "G" Company.

To be Acting Pipers :—No. 5834, Private J. McMillan, "G" Company; No. 7754, Private R. McLeish, "A" Company; and No. 7807, Private A. Taylor, "A" Company.

To be Pipers :—No. 5543, Private J. McLachlan, "G" Company, from 20th January 1902; No. 7082, Boy W. Allan, "A" Company, from 26th February 1902.

To be Drill Corporal :—No. 6182, Lance-Corporal Watt, "F" Company.

To be Assistant Armourer :—No. 6272, Private J. Leitch, "G" Company, under paragraph 950 A. R. I., Vol. II.

To be Sergeant, Unattached List :—No. 8217, Lance-Corporal R. Parke, Unattached List, with effect from 5th July 1901.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 2d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 5680, Pte. J. Getchell. | No. 3067, Pte. D. J. Smith.
No. 5662, Private T. Jones.

"B" Company.

No. 5707, Pte. B. Gordon. | No. 3553, Pte. A. Selley.

"C" Company.

No. 5659, Lce.-Corpl. H. Darwood. | No. 4439, Pte. J. Elder.

"D" Company.

No. 5488, Private A. Gillon.

"E" Company.

No. 4719, Pte. J. Lawrence. | No. 5696, Lce.-Corpl. C. Harkness.
,, 5331, ,, D. Aird. | ,, 5784, Pte. W. Chapman.

"F" Company.

No. 959, Pte. J. Reid. | No. 3490, Pte. R. Dyer.
,, 5653, ,, A. J. Edwards. | ,, 5741, ,, A. Saunders.
,, 5673, Lce.-Corpl. J. Lang. | ,, 5699, ,, W. Kelly.
No. 5716, Private T. McGeechan.

"G" Company.

No. 5669, Pte. T. Chilton. | No. 5697, Pte. P. McDonald.

"H" Company.

No. 5708, Bandsman J. Tierney.

At 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 7221, Pte. McClanahan. | No. 7900, Pte. T. Galiacher.
No. 3791, Private J. Adams.

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"B" Company.

No. 3978, Pte. G. Russell. | No. 5486, Pte. P. Struthers.
„ 7436, „ A. Faulds. | „ 7425, „ H. Smith.
„ 7417, „ W. Smith. | „ 7901, „ W. Brown.
„ 7340, „ W. Law. | „ 6593, „ D. Cochrane.
No. 7449, Pte. C. Hunter.

"C" Company.

No. 7421, Pte. W. Mather.

"D" Company.

No. 5885, Pte. W. Morrison. | No. 7427, Pte. R. Burns.
No. 5191, Pte. W. F. Allan.

"E" Company.

No. 6081, Pte. G. Douglas. | No. 7444, Pte. R. McKinnoll.
„ 7228, „ P. Williamson. | „ 7459, „ G. McNair.

"F" Company.

No. 5939, Pte. G. Ingram. | No. 7062, Pte. M. Warren.

"G" Company.

No. 6172, Pte. F. Eite. | No. 7380, Pte. R. J. Rennie.
No. 4677, Pte. D. Gibson.

"H" Company.

No. 6218, Pte. G. Murphy. | No. 4600, Pte. A. Burke.
„ 4276, „ W. Ballantyne. | „ 5017, „ J. Scott.
No. 3050, Piper D. McLachlan.

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 5357, Corporal J. Stewart, "A" to "H" Company.
„ 4293, „ G. Newell, "B" to "D" „
„ 5171, Drummer J. Coutts, "G" to "A" „
„ 7472, „ A. Aitchinson, "D" to "B" „
„ 5546, Piper J. McLachlan, "G" to "H" „
„ 7082, „ W. Allan, "A" to "F" „
„ 5885, Private W. Morrison, "D" to "G" „
„ 6598, „ D. Cochrane, "B" to "G" „

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

Granted 1st Class Certificate of Education, dated 24th September 1901:—

No. 5560, Private J. Laird, "C" Company.

Granted Second Class Certificates of Education, dated 15th March 1902:—

No. 5589, Lance-Cpl. J. McLaren, "G" Company.
No. 5170, „ „ W. Jamieson, "A" „

Granted 3rd Class Certificates of Education, dated 15th March 1902:—

No. 5044, Lance-Corporal J. McMahon, "C" Company.
„ 5855, Private W. Brodie, "G" Company.
„ 6070, Drummer J. Seton, "G" „
„ 4314, „ W. Hughes, "D" „

MOUNTED INFANTRY CERTIFICATES.

Granted Certificates for Mounted Infantry, dated 16th March 1902:—

"A" Company.

No. 7131, Pte. T. Blair. | No. 4976, Pte. W. A. Clarke.
No. 7038, Pte. J. McLachlan.

"B" Company.

No. 4796, Pte. W. McDonald. | No. 5284, Pte. A. McIntyre.
„ 5441, „ J. McIntyre | „ 5504, „ G. Stevenson.

"C" Company.

No. 5117, Pte. G. McVea. | No. 7431, Pte. W. Mather.
No. 4704, Pte. J. Smith.

"D" Company.

No. 5230, Sergt. D. Yardley. | No. 6142, Pte. W. Rastall.
„ 3896, Pte. E. McCulloch. | „ 5198, „ J. Marshall.

"E" Company.

No. 5118, Lce.-Cpl. McLean. | No. 6664, Dr. E. Dunnee.

"F" Company.

No. 5838, Cpl. C. Fraser. | No. 5363, Pte. R. McNee.

"G" Company.

No. 5286, Private H. Eite.

"H" Company.

No. 6392, Pte. G. Rarity. | No. 5017, Pte. J. Scott.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS.

Passed for promotion to undermentioned ranks and granted certificates:—

To Rank of Sergeant.

No. 6826, Corporal A. Gibb, "C" Company.
„ 6088, „ R. G. Milne, "G" „
„ 5945, „ A. McCrae, "E" „
„ 3849, „ J. Duff, "F" „
„ 6145, „ A. McDonald, "B" „
„ 2810, „ W. Willcocks, "G" „

To Rank of Corporal.

No. 4868, Lce.-Cpl. H. Gifford, "A" Company.
„ 5864, „ J. Gilmour, "G" „
„ 5182, „ T. Morrison, "B" „
„ 5696, „ C. Harkness "E" „
„ 5618, „ A. McMaster, "D" „

Granted New Messing Allowance:—

No. 7885, Private T. L. Pagan, "C" Company.
„ 8123, „ M. Laird, "C" „
„ 7890, „ A. McInnes, "C" „
„ 7502, „ M. Scott, "B" „

Attained 18 years of Age.

No. 6663, Drummer C. Dunne, "C" Company.

Number Allotted.

No. 8279 has been allotted to Private D. Dyer, "F" Coy.

Restoration of Service.

In accordance with para. 1842 King's Regulations, the service forfeited by—

No. 8216, Sergeant H. A. Mandy, U. L.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service:—

No. 8216, Sergeant H. A. Mandy, Unattached List.
„ 5601, Cr. Sgt. E. A. Daniel, „ „

To complete twelve years with the colours:—

No. 5546, Piper J. McLachlan, "H" Company.
„ 7472, Drummer A. Aitchinson, "D" „
„ 8195, „ J. Laird, "B" „

TAKEN ON STRENGTH.

Transferred from 1st Royal Scots Fusiliers and posted to "F" Company from 1st February 1902:—

Private D. Dyer.

Enlisted on 19th March and posted to "D" Company:—

Recruit Robert Isdale.

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STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

Embarked on S. S. "Assaye" for England on the 1st February 1902 :—

No. 3236,	Sergeant	R. Miller,	"G" Company.
„ 3022,	Lce.-Sergt.	W. Moat,	"A" „
„ 4002,	Drummer	R. McLachlan,	"E" „
„ 5619,	Private	J. Brady,	"D" „
„ 5549,	„	T. McGuire,	"H" „
„ 5993,	„	G. Sherman,	"B" „
„ 6357,	„	G. McMillan,	"G" „

Embarked on S. S. "Hardinge" for England on the 15th March 1902 :—

No. 4322,	Private	A. Gunn,	"C" Company.
„ 3290,	„	T. Gibbons,	"D" „
„ 3595,	„	J. Benson,	"C" „
„ 6566,	„	C. Hoey,	"F" „
„ 4617,	„	J. McWilliams,	"F" „
„ 5073,	„	J. Morrison,	"E" „
„ 3050,	Piper	D. McLachlan,	"H" „

FURLOUGHS.

Embarked on S. S. "Assaye" for England on 1st February 1902 :—

No. 5079,	Corporal	D. Macgillivray,	"G" Company.
„ 5132,	Lce.-Corpl.	F. Wainwright,	"F" „
„ 5516,	„ „	G. Anderson,	"C" „
„ 4168,	Private	T. Mansfield,	"E" „
„ 4366,	„	A. Graham,	"E" „
„ 4712,	„	J. Brown,	"A" „
„ 4721,	„	T. Wylie,	"B" „
„ 5110,	„	J. Greig,	"E" „
„ 5134,	„	R. Lightbody,	"F" „
„ 5507,	„	W. Reynolds,	"B" „

Embarked on S. S. "Malacca" for England on 15th February :—

No. 4628,	Sergeant	G. Ballantine,	"G" Company.
„ 3885,	„	E. Mahoney,	"A" „
„ 3378,	Lce.-Sergt.	F. Lynch,	"D" „
„ 4058,	Corporal	J. Buchanan,	"F" „
„ 3966,	Private	D. White,	"C" „

Embarked on the R. I. M. S. "Hardinge" 15th March 1902 :—

No. 1085,	Cr.-Sergt.	T. Chaplain,	"D" Company.
„ 2760,	„ „	J. Gunn,	"C" „

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

"B" COMPANY.

Best shots of Corporals and Privates.

			£	s.	d.
No. 4343,	Private	J. Maclean	0	15	0
„ 3747,	„	T. Trainer	0	8	0
„ 5182,	Lce.-Cpl.	T. Morrison	0	7	0
„ 4991,	Private	J. Anderson	0	6	0
„ 5052,	„	R. Hunter	0	6	0
„ 4981,	Lce.-Cpl.	P. Malone	0	5	0
„ 2425,	Corporal	A. McInnes	0	5	0
„ 4058,	„	J. Buchanan	0	4	0
„ 4980,	Drummer	A. Ferguson	0	2	6
„ 5252,	Private	L. Ferguson	0	2	6
„ 4780,	„	J. Hope	0	2	6
„ 5227,	„	R. Hyslop	0	2	6

Best shots of Practices 7 to 12.

No. 4343,	Private	J. Maclean	0	7	0
„ 5182,	Lce.-Cpl.	T. Morrison	0	6	0
„ 4780,	Private	J. Hope	0	5	0
„ 4681,	„	J. Scott	0	4	0

	£	s.	d.
Best shot of Sergeants.			
No. 3037, Sergeant J. Arnott	0	11	0
Best shot of No. 6 Practice.			
No. 5052, Private R. Hunter	0	5	6
Best Section, Part II, Table B.			
No. 3 Section	2	4	0

"F" COMPANY.

Best shots of Corporals and Privates.

No. 3344,	Sergeant	A. E. Laurie	0	15	0
„ 6239,	Private	A. Anchinvole	0	10	0
„ 3849,	Corporal	J. Duff	0	8	0
„ 5265,	Private	A. Hamilton	0	6	0
„ 4430,	„	W. Morrison	0	6	0
„ 5827,	Lce.-Cpl.	J. Clarke	0	6	0
„ 6072,	Private	R. Jamieson	0	5	6
„ 5344,	„	A. E. Robson	0	5	0
„ 4821,	„	W. Miller	0	4	0
„ 5837,	„	W. Lawrence	0	3	6

Best shots of Practices 7 to 12.

No. 5265,	Private	A. Hamilton	0	7	0
„ 6585,	Drummer	T. Cridland	0	5	0
„ 6239,	Private	A. Anchinvole	0	4	0
„ 5837,	„	W. Lawrence	0	4	0
„ 4430,	„	W. Morrison	0	3	0

Best shot of Sergeants.

No. 5219, Sergeant M. Sutherland	0	11	6

Best shot of No. 6 Practice.

No. 4058, Corporal J. Buchanan	0	5	9

Best Sections, Collective Practices.

No. 1 Section	3	3	0
„ 8 „	2	6	0

Commander of Best Section.

No. 3344, Sergeant A. E. Laurie	0	5	9

Best shots of Casuals.

No. 7378, Private M. Laird, "B" Company ...	0	5	9
„ 4289, „ R. Wright, „ „ ...	0	3	0
„ 5484, „ G. Ure, "F" Company ...	0	4	0

"C" COMPANY.

Best Section Collective Practices.

No. 5921,	Col.-Sergt.	R. G. Gilmour	0	5	0
„ 4773,	Corporal	A. Wilson	0	4	3
„ 5659,	Lce.-Cpl.	J. Darwood	0	4	2¼
„ 5562,	Private	J. McNair	0	4	2¼
„ 4563,	„	J. Adams	0	4	2¼
„ 4310,	„	R. French	0	4	2¼
„ 4092,	„	J. White	0	4	2¼
„ 3921,	„	J. Blackwood	0	4	2¼
„ 5215,	„	M. Cairns	0	4	2¼
„ 3364,	„	J. Conway	0	4	2¼
„ 3556,	„	J. Black	0	4	2¼
„ 4417,	„	J. Riddell	0	4	2¼
„ 5553,	„	W. McKay	0	4	2¼
„ 3538,	„	J. Farquharson ...	0	4	2¼

"D" COMPANY.

Best Section, Part II, Table B.

No. 2 Section	2	1	11½
Section Commander Pte. W. Morrison ...	0	3	9¼

"G" COMPANY.

Best Section, Part II, Table B.

No. 1 Section	3	11	6
Section Commander, Sergeant A. Lockie ...	0	6	6

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Judging Distance Prize Statement.

			£	s.	d.
No. 1085,	Cr.-Sergt. T. Chaplain,	"D" Coy.	1	5	0
„ 5021,	„ „ R. G. Gilmour,	"C" „	0	15	0
„ 4773,	Corporal A. Wilson,	"C" „	0	12	4½

THE DRAFT.

The following non-commissioned officers and men from home have been posted to companies as under :—

"A" Company.

No. 7909, Pte. D. McAskill.	No. 7966, Pte. J. Fulton.
„ 8024, „ J. Ferris.	„ 8041, „ J. Weir.
„ 8062, „ T. McNeil.	„ 8076, „ T. Baillie.
„ 7870, „ J. Brown.	„ 8015, „ J. Taylor.
„ 8049, „ J. Dunlop.	„ 8268, „ G. Griffin.

"B" Company.

No. 2875, Sergt. J. Melrose.	No. 6598, Pte. D. Cochrane.
„ 7340, Pte. W. Law.	„ 7422, „ R. Swan.
„ 7486, „ R. Snowdon.	„ 7617, „ M. Christie.
„ 7212, „ W. Fraser.	„ 7449, „ C. Hunter.
No. 7630, Private J. McVicar.	

"C" Company.

No. 8017, Pte. J. Blackburn.	No. 8040, Pte. J. Lawrie.
„ 8044, „ J. Middleton.	„ 8057, „ J. Wright.
„ 8064, „ D. Brash.	„ 7822, „ J. Scobie.

"D" Company.

No. 7616, Pte. J. McClusky.	No. 7726, Pte. W. O. Hare.
„ 7759, „ D. Marshall.	„ 7771, „ A. Sinclair.
„ 7803, „ H. Bremner.	„ 7884, „ J. Robertson.

"E" Company.

No. 6628, Pte. J. Rankin.	No. 7026, Cpl. J. Gibbons.
„ 7228, „ P. Williamson.	„ 7393, Pte. P. Fraser.
„ 7444, „ R. McKinnell.	„ 7459, „ G. McNair.
„ 7595, „ A. McGill.	„ 7723, „ J. J. McCarthy.
No. 7728, Pte. P. Savage.	

"G" Company.

No. 6935, Pte. J. Garden.	No. 7762, Pte. J. Rankin.
„ 7783, „ S. King.	„ 7869, „ J. Wardrope.
„ 7951, „ H. McIndewar.	„ 7972, „ J. Peggie.

"H" Company.

No. 8157, Boy L. A. Planner.

———: o :———

Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

BIRTHS.

Ewan—At Ranikhet, on 19th January, the wife of Sergeant J. Ewan of a daughter—Susan.

Maskell—At Ranikhet on 21st March, the wife of Sergeant A. Maskell of a son.

A FAIR EXCHANGE.

—o—

An old English lady died in France, and her relations wired for her to be sent home for burial. On opening the coffin they found a French General in full uniform and wired an explanation. The reply was, "Very sorry for mistake. Old lady buried yesterday with full military honours. Please retain general."

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The following are the rates of subscriptions to the "Thin Red Line":—

With Postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union, non-commissioned officers and men of the Regiment.	Rs. 2 per annum.
Officers and others not connected with the Regiment.	Rs. 3 per annum.

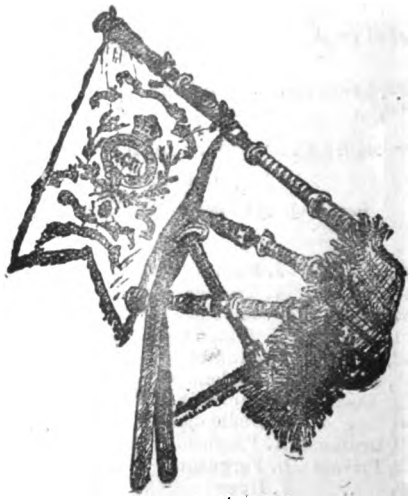
NOTA BENE.

All connected with the Regiment are invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, the "Thin Red Line."

Contributions for insertion in the "Thin Red Line" should be sent in by the last day of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly, in ink, and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

Cheques, money-orders, etc., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.



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CUTLER, PALMER & CO.

The Beer can be supplied from either of their Houses at

CALCUTTA, LAHORE, BOMBAY OR MADRAS.

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NOTHING SUCCEEDS SO WELL AS

Success.

32-8 Per Dozen.

Rs 32-8 Per Dozen.

INVALID'S PORT.

THE THIN RED LINE.

THIS PARTICULAR WINE is as free from alcohol as it is possible for Port to be to retain the natural characteristics of a delicate and suitable Wine for Invalids.

Professor CASSAL has analysed our Invalid's Wine and his certificate of purity is attached to every bottle we ship. Our Wine has fraudulent imitations, we therefore ask that those who order this particular Wine of course should see that the bottles bear the Professor's name in addition to our own.

CUTLER, PALMER & Co., CALCUTTA,

LONDON, INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, etc.

LAHORE: Printed for the Proprietors by the "Civil and Military Gazette" Press.

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IND, COOPE & CO., LTD.,

BURTON-ON-TRENT, ENGLAND,

BEG to draw the attention of Officers commanding Regiments, and of Presidents of Liquor Bars, to their celebrated Brand ◇E PALE ALE, brewed specially for India, and the only English Beer offered or supplied to Canteens in India. Also their ◇◇E, specially brewed for Officers' and Sergeants' Messes in India.

STOCKS are held in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Karachi, and on application by the Canteen President a sample hogshead will be forwarded FREE and carriage paid. Every hogshead guaranteed fresh and sound, and full to the bung. Rates quoted delivered into Canteen.

THE SPECIAL BREWS FOR INDIA.

THE Ales which we have selected for India, and which are shipped under the marks ◇E and ◇◇E have satisfied us, after spending much time and money in experiments, as being absolutely the most suitable Ale for the Indian climate.

PURITY.—We eschew entirely the use of chemicals or adulterants in our beers, as we prefer to build up their reputation more as pure healthy beverages (made from the best Malt and Hops only).

SOUNDNESS.—The variations of climate to which Ales exported to India are subjected, owing to the seasons of the year, and the difference of temperature of various districts, are so great that the necessity for these particular qualities is very apparent. From tests made with our beer in the heart of the Soudan, and also in the Plains of India, we are satisfied that these ◇E and ◇◇E Brands of Ale for India will keep perfectly sound for a period of from six to nine months in any district of India, and through any season of the year.

PRICE.—The necessity of quoting our Ale at a price sufficiently low to enable it to be retailed in the Canteen at the same price as Country Beer has had our very careful attention, and except in some few stations to which the railway charges are excessive, our quotations will admit of this being done.

MEDICAL OPINION is unanimous on the point that a healthy beer for India must be a light beer, and it is to our keen appreciation of this vitally important point that we attribute our success in India. The well water of Burton-on-Trent is absolutely pure, and possesses qualities unequalled by any other well or spring waters in Great Britain, and this, coupled with our discovery of the exact correct specific gravity for the Indian climate, enables us to guarantee our beer the purest and the healthiest beer offered to Canteens in India.

Managing Agents in India:

CHARLES PHILLIMORE & COY., LTD.,

Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Karachi, Colombo.

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Vol. VII,

THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 1—Vol. VIII.] CALCUTTA—MAY 1902. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

Major Paterson is away in Kashmir, and is, we hope, enjoying cooler weather than we are having.

Captain Darroch is having a spell at home, also Lieut. Herbert, whom we hope soon to see again as he has only taken short leave.

Captain Campbell has had a fall from his trap and escaped with a broken collar bone and a wound from the shaft. We are glad to see he is about again, and wish him "bon voyage" and a quick recovery at home.

Captain Graham is on leave in Darjeeling, and 2nd Lieuts. Kennedy and James shooting on the Nepal Frontier.

Lieut. Forbes has now rejoined having recovered, we are glad to see, from the broken arm he was unfortunate enough to receive while doing the gymnastic class at Lucknow.

Lieut. McPherson has gone to the depôt for duty, replacing Captain Cox, who has left us for a time, to serve in the Egyptian Army.

Lieuts. Sandeman and Langton have both gone home on leave, the former for one year, and the latter on six months' medical leave.

Lieut. Akers-Douglas is Acting A. D. C. to H. E. the Viceroy, and we are constantly reading of his successes in the Gymkhanas at Simla.

Lieut. J. Kennedy has taken over the duties of Adjutant from Captain Campbell while the latter is on leave.

2nd Lieut. A. Latham, who left us a short time ago to join the 17th Bengal Infantry, has lately been selected for appointment to the 2nd Battalion, 1st Gurkhas.

2nd Lieut. J. A. Muirhead (Unattached List) has been appointed to the 1st Bengal Lancers and left us early in April to join his new corps at Lucknow.

* * *

At an examination held at Bareilly on 17th January, Captain A. Elphinston, 2nd Lieut. A. E. Kennedy and Lieut. G. S Douglas, King's Own Scottish Borderers, attached, passed in subjects (a) and (b) for promotion.

* * *

Lance-Corporal W. Alder, "H" Company, has been granted a first-class Gymnastic Certificate, dated 15th April 1902.

* * *

Sergeant G. Gunn has been posted to the Burma Railway Volunteer Corps as a First Class Instructor, and is transferred to the Unattached List, with effect from 7th January 1902.

* * *

After much vexatious delay the draft for South Africa at last embarked and sailed on the Hired Transport *Syria* from Bombay on the 18th April. It was surely bad management on the part of the authorities who arrange such

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things that the men were kept waiting in Deolali for about two months before sea transport could be obtained for them. They might just as well have remained with the regiment for another six weeks. As it was, the men were simply eating their hearts out to get away from the place. Deolali has never been an ideal place of residence from any British Soldier's point of view, and to have been obliged to stay under canvas in the heat of an Indian Summer could not possibly have been a good preparation for the serious work in store for the draft in South Africa. However, they have all gone now and we can but wish our old comrades a pleasant voyage and the best of luck.

* * *

The first of a series of concerts to be held fortnightly during the continuance of the present hot weather took place on Wednesday, 23rd April. It is intended to hold the concerts in the open air when possible and a site has been selected under the trees at the end of the parade ground nearest the Staff Block. The heavy showers of rain which fell on the evening of the 23rd entirely precluded the idea, however, of holding the concert in the open, and so the regimental theatre had to be utilised for the occasion, much, no doubt, to the disgust of those who had worked so hard to get the concert ground ready during the day. Owing to circumstances over which we had no control, the *Thin Red Line* was not represented at the entertainment by any of its reporting staff, but we hear that the concert was of the highest quality and that Sergeant-Major Ditcham, who organised the entertainment, deserves the fullest recognition of his efforts in securing so much talent to amuse and entertain the battalion during this trying season of the year. A programme is appended.

PART I.

Overture	"The Toreador"	*The Band.*
Song	"When your hair grows whiter"	*Mr. W. H. Davies.*
Song (Comic)	"Jean McDade the Laundry Maid"	*Piper Burns.*
Piccolo Solo	"Deep Blue Sea"	*Corporal Willcocks.*
Song	"The Deathless Army"	*Mr. J. McMurray.*
Song	"Keep off the Grass"	*Miss Lonmon.*
Violin Solo	Selected	*Mr. Joy.*
Sword Dance	....	*Piper Finlayson.*
Musical Selection	"Scottish Airs"	*The Misses Gray, Messrs. Russel and Gray.*

PART II.

Valse	"Souvre D'Avril"	*The Band.*
Song	"Killiecrankie"	*Piper Burns.*
Song	Selected	*Miss Lonmon.*
Reel	....	*Pipers Finlayson and Gordon, Pts. McMillan and McLean.*
Song	"Sons of the Motherland"	*Mr. W. H Davies.*
Song	"The Mighty Deep"	*Mr. J. McMurray.*
Cornet Solo	"Aileen Alannah"	*Corporal McLachlan.*
Musical Selection	"March Novar"	*The Misses Gray, Messrs. Russel and Gray.*
Pianist	....	*Mr. A. Affleck.*

GOD SAVE THE KING.

* * *

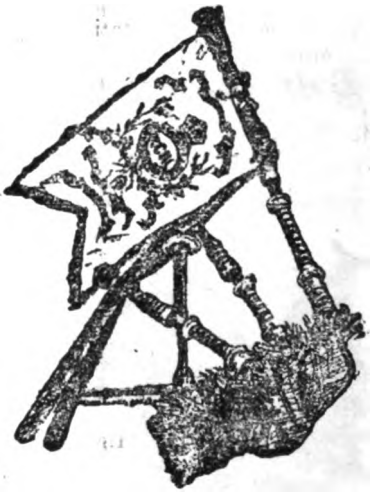
A cup has very kindly been presented by the attached officers for competition by company hockey teams, and will be played for on the knock-out principle, the first round is to be played off by the 20th May, and the following is the arrangement of the matches:—

"A" *v.* "B"; "C" *v.* "G"; "D" *v.* "F"; "E" *v.* "H."

The winners of "A" *v.* "B" to play the winners of "C" *v.* "G."

The winners of "D" *v.* "F" to play the winners of "E" *v.* H."

—:o:—



Peace.

—o—

Peace! What is Peace? 'Mid the cannon's roar;
'Mid the rattle of shot and shell,
Through the living stream of scarlet gore
From the portals of Earth to Hell.
Up to the thunder-riven sky
Willing to live, yet glad to die,
Hearts that are bursting—
Lips that are thirsting,
Praying. For what? For another life?
Nay! Oh ye mothers and sisters weep—
Praying for freedom from earthly strife,
The gentle touch of eternal sleep!

Then, when the shadowy folds of night
Turn the sorrows of man to rest,
The angels of Death and Eternal Light
Glide down from their haven of rest;
Touching with gentle hands the brows
Lips soon to cease from earthly vows,
Honour defended,
Duties now ended.
In the soft trail of their gentle feet
Up to the world where all sorrows cease,
Led by the grandeur of music sweet—
Home to the City of Rest and Peace!

C. B.

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Notes from the South African Draft.

—o—

DEOLALI CAMP:
April 13th, 1902.

THE monotony of Camp life was broken somewhat by the Depôt Sports which were held on Monday, 31st March. Representatives of detachments of the South Lancashire Regiment, and Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders for South Africa, and the York and Lancaster Regiment, Royal Scots Fusiliers, and Royal Irish Rifles from South Africa, and the ordinary garrison detachment of the Oxford Light Infantry, took part in them. The old corps upheld its reputation well, all our representatives doing well, especially Mossman, as will be seen by the following programme and results:—

100 Yards Race.

Private Mossman, A. and S. Highlanders	1*st.*
„ Dick, A. and S. Highlanders	2*nd.*
Oxford Light Infantry ...	3*rd.*

Quarter-mile Race.

Private Mossman, A. and S. Highlanders	1*st.*
„ McColl, A. and S. Highlanders	2*nd.*
King's Own Scottish Borderers ...	3*rd.*

Half-mile Race.

Private Mossman, A. and S. Highlanders	1*st.*
„ McColl, A. and S. Highlanders	2*nd.*
„ Gannon, „ „ ...	3*rd.*

Sergeants' Race.

Sergeant Watson, A. and S. Highlanders	1*st.*
„ Beavis, A. and S. Highlanders	2*nd.*

Three-legged Race.

Private Duncan, "H" Company, A. and S. Highlanders ...	1*st.*
„ Maslin, "G" Company, A. and S. Highlanders ...	
„ Brown, "H" Company, A. and S. Highlanders ...	2*nd.*
„ Gannon, "A" Company, A. and S. Highlanders ...	

Sack Race

Private Maslin, A. and S. Highlanders	1*st.*
South Lancashire Regiment ...	2*nd.*

Long Jump.

Private Mossman, A. and S. Highlanders	1*st.*
Oxford Light Infantry ...	2*nd.*
„ Dick, A. and S. Highlanders	3*rd.*

Tug-o'-War.

Drafts for South Africa *v.* Draft from South Africa was won easily by the former.

GENERAL'S INSPECTION.

On the 3rd April the Depôt and Drafts were inspected by Brigadier-General Sir James Willcocks, K.C.M.G., of "Ashanti" fame. The General, who was Major on the intelligence staff in the "Tochi," immediately recognised the old Battalion as represented by us, and gave us a little speech, in the course of which he mentioned the fact that the Battalion had a great deal of hard work to perform in the "Tochi" operations without the usual fun of a campaign, and which, he said, we had done cheerfully and well. Sir James seems to have seen a great deal of service since he was with us, as he is wearing nine ribbons now.

There has been little of importance to chronicle lately. The usual crop of rumours, incidental, it seems to me, to every military community, forms the chief topic of conversation. The "boat" and nothing but the "boat" is the subject of discussion of the day, the hour, the week, and I do believe will be the main topic of conversation as long as there are two soldiers left in Deolali. There appears to be some truth however in the latest yarn, *viz.*, that we sail for South Africa on the Hired Transport *Syria*, which arrives at Bombay on the 11th, from which we take it that there is really a chance of our sailing about the 17th or 18th. We do not attach too much importance to the above, however, as we have received so many disappointments now that it is impossible to be certain about anything in this paradise of Munchausenism. We are just hanging on in our usual semi-roasted condition of misery ready for anything that may turn up.

Later.—Copy of "District Orders" of 13th April gives the following information:—To South Africa—Drafts of Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, South Lancashire Regiment, and remainder of Syce reliefs and Remount Depôt will embark on H. T. *Syria* on 17th instant. I think I will conclude this short chronicle with the promise of another from Durban, relating the incidents of the voyage.

Yours as B. 4.

JOHN BULL.

—:o:—

MODERN WARFARE.

—o—

The "Free Lance" gives the following example of modern warfare:—

Scene: Battlefield. Commander-in-Chief to Aide-de-camp—What is that large body of men occupying the hill on our left?

A. D. C.—Those, sir, are Kodak fiends.

C.-in-C.—And the black mass of men I see well in front of me.

A. D. C.—Operators for the Biograph.

C.-in-C.—And the battalion on our right with curiously-formed guns.

A. D. C.—Gramophone and Phonograph experts with their respective machines to take records of the battle, the roar of the guns, bugle calls, cries of the wounded, &c.

C.-in-C.—'Tis well. Let the battle begin!

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Calcutta to Jalapahar.

—o—

THE detachment departed from Scaldah Station at 1 P.M. on 7th March, and after a tolerably rapid run reached the right bank of the Ganges at Damukdia, a distance of 116 miles from Calcutta, at 7 P.M. Here we detrained, and after a wait of half an hour got on board the ferry steamer and proceeded to Sara Ghat This part of the journey takes about 30 minutes, and the sail across the river by night is a very pleasant one; the many different coloured lights marking the various channels, and the lights of the villages along the banks of the river having a very pretty effect when seen from the deck of the steamer. A hot cup of tea which was served up on board proved a most acceptable refresher to everyone. On landing at Sara Ghat no trouble whatever was encountered with the baggage as coolies were employed by the railway authorities to do all the necessary work.

From Sara Ghat to Silliguri the train travels along the Northern Bengal State Railway, a metre gauge line, running to the foot of the mountains. This was an all-night journey and it was not until 11 A.M. on the 8th that we arrived at Silliguri. Here we got breakfast and dinner, after which we changed into Serge clothing, packed our kits away in the minature train, and got ready to ascend the mountains. From Silliguri the line is a 2-feet gauge, and gets the name of the "Toy Railway," and it is so in comparison with other railways, the wheels of the carriages being only 19 inches in diameter. It is considered to be a masterpiece of engineering, and the journey from the foot of the hills to Jalapahar is an experience of a lifetime. The locomotives were constructed by Messrs. Sharp, Stewart & Co., Glasgow, and are capable of taking a train of 50 tons up the mountains. The carriages are arranged to afford the utmost comfort to the traveller, whether in good or bad weather. They seem a trifle small though when six fighting men, encumbered with rifle, straps, blankets and other warlike material, locate themselves therein; there is not much room to spare at any rate. The length of the line from Silliguri to Darjeeling is somewhere about 50 miles. Leaving Silliguri the Mohanuddy river is crossed by a well-constructed iron bridge about 700 feet in length, and the railway takes a straight line along the level for about seven miles to a station called Sookna. The ascent then commences, and the line begins to wind in and out along the mountain side. Frightful precipices yawn on either side, and dense impenetrable forests in which lurk, tigers, leopards and other animals, dear to the *Shikari*, are seen. Stops for watering the engine are made at Rungtong and Teandaria. At the latter place the workshops of the line are situated. A little beyond Teandaria, a very remarkable piece of engineering is noticeable, the line describing a loop in the shape of the figure eight. The next station is Gyabari, a reversing station, where the line zig-zags several times. These zig-zags are locally known as the Goompties I believe. At the 25th mile a large water-course known as "Pugla Jahra" or the mad torrent was reached. This water-fall has caused considerable trouble and expense, and is always a source of anxiety to the officials during the rainy season. In July 1890 nearly 1,500 feet of road and rails were carried away by the heavy rains. Still travelling along the mountain sides, splendid views of the plains and surrounding mountains are obtained The Bhootan range lies to the eastward, and on the west may be seen the mountains of Nepal. The hill-sides are dotted here and there with the white-roofed bungalows of the many tea plantations scattered around. Toong is reached next, and the Victoria Brewery may be seen. This building was formerly used as a rest-house by troops on their way to and from Jalapahar and Lebong. The height above sea level at Toong is 5,656 feet. The next station is Sonada, 41¼ miles, a small native bazaar of no importance. The height here is 6,562 feet. The road from Sonada to Ghoom, our last station, is usually enveloped in a dense fog, and the temperature unpleasantly low, even in the middle of summer, and we certainly found it so. The cause is probably the dense forests on the Western slopes of Sinchal condensing the moisture in the atmosphere. Sinchal, I may mention, is one of the highest peaks near Jalapahar. Ghoom station 7,407 feet, and the highest elevation reached by the railway, is reached after passing through the Jar Bungalow Bazaar. Here we detrained about 7 P.M, and a walk of two miles, a good stiff climb in the face of a bitter cold wind, brought us into barracks about 8 P.M. After being posted to our rooms we found every comfort waiting for us, fires alight, beds filled, and last but not least a good supper, to which, I think, everyone did ample justice.

R. T. AND A. K.

—:o:—

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Home and Depot Notes.

—o—

Colonel J M. Hunt, 2nd Battalion, Cameron Highlanders, temporarily commanding the Infantry Brigade at Gibralter, is to be appointed to the command of the 91st Regimental District.

On the occasion of the opening of the Argyll and Sutherland Memorial Home, Colonel Trotter and the officers of the Regimental Depôt held an "At Home" in the Armoury at the castle. A large and fashionable company were present, but the list is much too long to be included in these columns. Tea and other refreshments were served during the afternoon, and an excellent programme of music was done justice to by the band of the First Battalion, under Band Master J McClurg, and by the pipe-band under Pipe-Major Colin Thompson.

The band of the First Battalion gave two very excellent concerts in the Public Hall in aid of the new Soldiers' Home, and also an open air performance on the lawn of the castle on Sunday, at which many hundreds of people were present, and a collection which was taken amounted to over £11.

From the *Rothesay Express*:—

At a military entertainment in Aberfeldy last week there was on exhibition a glass case containing uniform, medals, parchment, etc., belonging to the late Donald Cameron of the 79th and 93rd Highlanders, a *Thin Red Line* man. The relics were presented to the Provost and Magistrates of Aberfeldy by Mr. James Cameron, L.D.S., Glasgow, formerly of Rothesay, with the view of founding a local museum.

We are always glad to hear of any old veterans of the NINETY-THIRD and proud to know that so many of them have enhanced the reputation of their old regiment by the respect and esteem in which they are held by the civil communities among whom they have settled. The following is from a Scottish paper:—

A Crimean Veteran.—A Woodside (Aberdeen) Crimean veteran is Mr. Adam Birnie, who resides in Great Northern Road, and is well known and respected in Woodside. Mr. Birnie just missed being in the *Thin Red Line* at Balaclava, having joined the 93rd Highlanders in the Crimea shortly after that famous feat of arms. He saw fighting in the Crimea, however, and was at Sebastopol. He enlisted in the 93rd Regiment in 1854, and was immediately sent out to the Crimea. After the Crimean War, for which he holds two medals—that issued by the British Government, and another by the Turkish Government, and a clasp for Sebastopol—he proceeded to India. He was engaged in the Indian Mutiny, and although, as stated, he was too late for the *Thin Red Line* in the Crimea, he took part in another red-letter event in the history of his regiment, the Relief of Lucknow, by Sir Colin Campbell. During the fighting in connection with that brilliant episode he was wounded. He holds the Indian medal, with clasp for the Relief of Lucknow. After the Mutiny he proceeded home, and retired from the army in 1861. Mr. Birnie is a mason to trade, and for many years back has resided in Woodside.

The promoters at Boston, Lincolnshire, of the public testimonial to Sergeant J. O'Neil, formerly of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, a survivor of the Birkenhead troopship disaster, have received encouraging letters from the Prince of Wales and Lord Roberts. Lieutenant-Colonel Giradot now residing at Southampton, who commanded a detachment of the 43rd Light Infantry on board the *Birkenhead* at the time of the disaster, has come forward as a subscriber.

It is interesting to note that the 26th February last was the fiftieth anniversary of the wreck of the *Birkenhead*. On that date, says the Broad Arrow, "The officers of the Queen's sent the following telegram to Lieutenant-Colonel Giradot at Southampton":—

'On the fiftieth anniversary of the wreck of the *Birkenhead* the officers of The Queen's whose regiment was represented on board send hearty greetings to one who did so much on this memorable occasion to uphold the glorious traditions of the British Army.' The following reply was received from Lieutenant-Colonel Giradot: 'To the officers of The Queen's, Stoughton Barracks, Guilford—Lieutenant-Colonel Giradot begs sincerely to thank the officers of The Queen's for their telegram of hearty greetings on the fiftieth anniversary of the wreck of the *Birkenhead*. He well remembers poor Ensign Boylan, who commanded the detachment of The Queen's. Southampton, 26th February 1902.'—The following are known to be survivors of the *Birkenhead*: 1, Lieutenant-Colonel Giradot, who on the occasion of the wreck was a Lieutenant of the 43rd Light Infantry. 2, Sergeant O'Neil, 91st Highlanders, now of Boston, Lincolnshire. According to a letter signed "St. Ives," in *The St. James's Gazette* of the 22nd ultimo, John Smith, 2nd Battalion, The Queen's, of St. Ives, Hunts, is said to be a survivor. Smith's case is being inquired into, and if verified, he will be provided for by the officers of The Queen's, who in the meantime have sent him a donation.

There is a strong likelihood of a new pattern rifle being issued to the army shortly, the new improved Enfield having, we hear, been finally approved. The breech action is similar to that of the manser, but has several improvements. The loading will be on the clip principle, as with the mauser, five cartridges being in one clip, thus facilitating loading and saving time. The

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bolt cover now in use, which is the cause of much trouble, is done away with, and by means of screws with milled edges the bolt may be taken to pieces without the use of tools. The barrel has been shortened by five inches rendering it adaptable for either mounted or dismounted troops. The range of the projectile has been in no way lessened by the sacrifice of length as this is maintained by increasing the twist of the rifling. To preserve the balance at the breach, when carrying it at the trail, and to compensate for the shortened barrel the butt-plate has been made of aluminium. The oil-bottle will not be carried in the rifle and the butt will be further lightened by hollowing out the thickest part, so that the rifle is about one-and-a-half pounds lighter than the present rifle. The sighting has been improved, the foresight, of fine "bead" pattern with a minute white enamel head, is arranged to slide to the right or left to allow for windage, and is protected from injury by a cover, through which the sight is taken. The back-sight is marked and graduated like a vernier with a set screw in the slide to fix it at any distance. This should be a great improvement for target work. Recourse will be made to the use of a longer bayonet than the present sword pattern, and it will probably take the form of the old triangular weapon.

—:o:—

Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

BIRTHS.

CRAWFORD.—At Calcutta, on the 7th April 1902, the wife of Sergeant-Master-Tailor H. Crawford, of a daughter —Hilda Jane.

STUBBS.—At Calcutta, on the 10th April 1902, the wife of Color-Sergeant C. Stubbs, of a son.

LOCKIE.—At Calcutta, on the 30th April 1902, the wife of Sergeant A. Lockie, of a son—Garrick Bannerman.

DEATHS.

ISDALE.—At the Station Hospital, Calcutta, on the 10th April 1902, No. 8315, Private R. Isdale, "D" Company.

DEVLIN.—At the Station Hospital, Jalapahar, on the 9th April, 1902, No. 6149, Private D. Devlin, "H" Company.

Opening of Argyll and Sutherland Memorial Home.

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BY HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF MONTROSE.

(From the Stirling Sentinal).

ON Saturday afternoon, the Soldiers' Home, which has been instituted in Stirling largely through the indomitable energy of Colonel Trotter, Commanding the 91st Regimental District, was formally opened by her Grace the Duchess of Montrose in presence of a large and brilliant company. The Home, as our readers are already aware, has found a habitation in Mar Lodge, the property of the late General Satchwell, which has been leased on very favourable terms. There being no room large enough in the House to accommodate the large company which assembled, the proceedings took place in the Armoury at the Castle. Her Grace the Duchess of Montrose was accompanied to the platform by Colonel Trotter, Sir Thomas Glen Coates, Provost Thomson, Mr. Jas. W. Campbell, and Captain Campbell. Besides the large number of invited guests, there were present many of the soldiers of the garrison, while the band of the 1st Battalion from Dublin, and the pipers of the Castle, played selections, while the company was assembling, and during the proceedings, Captain Campbell having stated the order of the proceedings.

Colonel Trotter addressed the meeting:—He said he wished to tell them in the fewest words possible how the Home had prospered since they set about trying to get it started some two years ago. As nearly everyone present was a subscriber to the undertaking, and very deeply interested in its success, he thought that was an excellent opportunity of letting them know how they had got on. In addition to the three circulars which had been issued explaining the objects of the Home, and in addition to the notices which the Press had so very kindly given publicity to, he had on several occasions spoken in public in Stirling about the objects of the institution, but it was quite possible that a number of those present were not in the habit of reading circulars—he did not very often do so himself—(laughter)—and as they might not have had the advantage of hearing him enlarge upon this subject, he thought they would allow him to mention as briefly as possible the objects of the Memorial Home. (Cheers). In his first circular, issued in October, 1900, he drew attention to the fact that there was no such institution in Stirling as a Soldiers' Home, although most other garrison towns in Scotland had one; and he pointed out the immense advantages to soldiers, and especially to young recruits, which they possessed, affording as they did all the comforts of a club, and tending by well-chosen surroundings to elevate the moral tone of the members. He also said in that circular that there was no rendezvous outside the Castle for soldiers who wanted to spend a quiet hour or two in the afternoon or evening, for as they were all aware, although they had within the Castle excellent reading and recreation rooms and a canteen, soldiers naturally liked to go out of barracks occasionally, and when they did go out they wandered aimlessly about in search of some place where they could spend a quiet hour or two. He also proposed in that circular that the Home should be erected to the memory of the officers and men of the regiment who fell in the Transvaal War, and that it should be called the Argyll and Sutherland Memorial Home. In a circular sent out in January of this year, it was stated that the sum received up to that time was £1,981, and since then it had risen to £1,993, after deducting all expenses. (Cheers). Some time ago they purchased a property in the centre

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of the town for £900, but they found that the expense of converting it into a Home would be too great, and they therefore agreed to rent the house they had seen that day—Mar Lodge—at a rent of £55 per annum. Owing to the kind liberality of many friends they were not now very far from the attainment of what they wished in starting this Home. (Cheers). The objects stated in the circulars were what might be called the practical objects of the Home. There was another aspect in which the Home must be regarded—an aspect he would characterise, though in no sense in a slighting way, as the sentimental aspect. When he first started the idea of a Memorial Home he was told he should seriously consider the unfortunate effect which failure of any such undertaking to perpetuate the memory of those who had died would have upon the regiment and the public at large. He considered the matter in this light, and he came to the conclusion that in this large district which he had the honour to command—one of the largest in Scotland—with its nine battalions of Militia and Volunteers, the chances of failure were very small. And last but not least, he knew that he had at his back a town and county and district which had more than loyally done their duty during the war, and to whose cordial co-operation under the Lord-Lieutenant of the County, the Duke of Montrose—(loud cheers)—the Provost of Stirling, and other gentlemen in the district, he owed very materially the success which up to now had attended their undertaking. (Cheers). In regard to the sentimental aspect of the Home he would say that while they were always ready to raise monuments and to put up memorial brasses to the memory of those whom they had lost, and to commemorate their love and esteem for people who had gone, he could not conceive anything more fitting for a memorial to those who had fallen in battle and who had died from disease than a Home such as they were opening that afternoon. They could not raise the veil which separated them from those who had gone, but they could so far penetrate it as to raise to them a memorial which he was certain would have met with their thorough approval. (Cheers). He greatly regretted that owing to the season of the year and other causes a number of the best supporters of the Home were unavoidably absent that afternoon. One whose absence he regretted very much was a lady to whom he had been very much indebted ever since the idea of the Home was mooted, and from whom he had received the very best counsel and advice—he referred to Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Argyll, Princess Louise. (Cheers). An hour ago he received a telegram from her in the following terms:—"Please express my most sincere regret that I cannot be at to-day's opening ceremony of the Memorial Home, in which I take the greatest interest. I am delighted to hear that it is already very popular. And let me thank you for all the time and trouble you have devoted to make it a success, and I sincerely trust that the necessary subscriptions still required will be received to-day.—LOUISE." (Cheers). Had Princess Louise been present that afternoon, he was certain they would have received her as one who did her very best not only for the community in general, but for the regiment of which she was the honoured chief. (Cheers). He had also received a telegram from Lord Roberts' private secretary expressing his Lordship's regret that he could not be present. He had also received a letter from Lord Roberts to the same effect, and stating that he was sending a portrait of himself to the Home. (Cheers). The Home, as a matter of fact, had been open for the last four or five weeks, and was doing exceedingly well. They had been fortunate in securing the gratuitous services of a lady who was eminently qualified to discharge the duties of superintendent of the Home. He advised the young soldiers present to go to her when they were in difficulty, and they would always get the best advice and the most friendly encouragement. (Cheers). Personally, he desired to say that it was a very great pleasure to him that that opening ceremony had taken place before he quitted the command of this District, and it was even a greater pleasure to him to be able to record his most sincere thanks to the Committee who had worked with him in getting the Home set on foot. (Cheers). Before concluding, he wished to acknowledge his indebtedness to several people without whose assistance he was perfectly certain they would not have been meeting there that afternoon. In the first place he wished to thank Mr. James W. Campbell, of the Bank of Scotland, for acting as Treasurer of the Home. Mr. Campbell was one of the busiest men in Stirling and one of the most indomitable, and they were very greatly indebted to him for his successful efforts to further the scheme. (Cheers). With Colonel Morton, Mr. Richardson, and the Provost of Stirling, he had infused a considerable amount of business-like energy into the workings of the Committee, which he was afraid they did not altogether possess when the officers alone began the work. Mr. J. B. Richardson was in the van of every philanthropic movement in Stirling, and to him their very cordial thanks were due. He had already mentioned that a year ago they purchased a property in the town for £900, but it was found unsuitable for their purpose, and they had to part with it. Mr. Richardson came forward and purchased the property, paying them not only what they gave for it, but a considerable sum into the bargain. (Cheers). To Messrs. Graham & Morton their thanks were also due for providing furnishings for the Home at cost price. (Cheers). He acknowledged very heartily the assistance rendered by people in the town who had collected large sums for the Home. Amongst others he would mention the little son of Mr. Park, one of their most respected citizens, and also the son of Quarter-Master-Sergeant Hutton, who had proved themselves most successful collectors. (Cheers). To Mrs. Lindsay, wife of his Sergeant-Major, they were also much indebted. (Cheers). There was one other individual to whom he must offer hearty thanks, and that was to Captain Campbell, who had acted as Secretary of the Home. Captain Campbell, as they were aware, was one of his staff officers, and he could not speak too highly of the cordial co-operation he had received from him, and of the hearty way in which he had worked, especially during periods when he (Colonel Trotter) was unable to devote sufficient time to the Home. (Cheers). Of the services rendered by Sergeant-Major Lindsay it was impossible to speak too highly. (Cheers). The Volunteer Battalions under his command—the 1st at Greenock, under Colonel Lamont; the 2nd at Paisley, under Colonel Sir Thomas Glen Coats; the 1st Dumbarton Rifle Volunteers, under Colonel Denny; and the 3rd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, under Colonel Hamilton—had subscribed most liberally, in a way he could not have conceived possible, coming forward with large subscriptions and other help. (Cheers). Of his chief colleague in the direction of this undertaking he could not that afternoon speak in such terms as he would have liked to employ, but whenever he was in difficulty—and he had been in difficulty once or twice—and when he had matters of delicacy to settle, it was to the Duke of Montrose he went, and he found him in this matter, as in everything else which he took up, the truest friend and the kindest counsellor. (Cheers). It now only remained for him to ask Her Grace the Duchess of Montrose to declare this institution open, and he had no doubt that her words would be full of the kindness, dignity, and

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grace which invariably marked her utterances when furthering the cause of those in whom she was interested (Loud cheers).

The Duchess of Montrose, who was received with cheers, said—Colonel Trotter, ladies and gentlemen,—I consider it a great honour to be asked to open this Soldiers' Home which has been erected as a memorial to the brave men of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders who have died during this war in the service of their country. We are much indebted to Colonel Trotter, who is the chief promoter of this Home, for initiating the idea, and for carrying it out with so much zeal and energy, and I am glad that he has the satisfaction of seeing the Home opened and well started before his departure from Stirling, which I must say we shall all sincerely regret. (Cheers). A Soldiers' Home, I venture to think, should be looked upon as a necessary adjunct to any military depôt, for wherever they exist they have proved to be the greatest boon to the men, and to be thoroughly appreciated by them. I had the pleasure last January of going over the Soldiers' Home at Maryhill with the Duke and Sir Archibald Hunter, and we then heard from Miss Davidson, who has done so much for that Home, how thoroughly the men appreciate it, and how grateful they are for any kindness shown to them. A universal desire prevails at the present time to improve in every way that is possible the conditions of our soldiers' lives, and we may be sure that to provide them with Homes such as this is one of the most practical ways of helping them. (Cheers). For if we consider how young the majority of our soldiers are when first they enlist, many of them leaving their homes for the first time, we can easily understand the difficulties they have to face in the numerous temptations to which they are at once exposed. It is therefore to their advantage if, instead of the attractions of the public-house, we can give them something far better in the shape of a bright comfortable club, outside barracks, where they can spend their evenings and leisure hours and be provided with tea or supper, amid cheerful and home-like surroundings, and where they can read or write, or play games, as they choose. Interesting lectures can also be given them, and concerts, which they greatly appreciate. These Homes are absolutely undenominational. Men of all churches are welcome, and their religious persuasions are never interfered with. I am sure it is a great satisfaction to us to know that the soldiers here will in future have the benefit of such a Home. It is one way in which we at home can show our appreciation of the gallant behaviour displayed by our soldiers during this protracted war. (Cheers). We have watched with the greatest admiration the bravery, patience, and endurance of our troops in South Africa, for many of them have been out since the commencement of the war, and are still called upon to bear the prolonged strain and stress it entails, which must be very trying to both officers and men. None have shown these qualities of bravery and endurance in a higher degree than the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and I can assure you the Duke was proud to go out in command of the 3rd Battalion, and he speaks in the highest terms of praise of their exemplary behaviour ever since they were embodied. In his last letter to me His Grace says:—"The men are behaving quite splendidly, and nothing comes amiss to them; they never grumble at anything, and everything comes in the day's work." (Cheers). It is a great pleasure to hear this, and I feel sure that this spirit of devotion to their duty is the spirit that other men of this regiment will always endeavour to emulate. (Cheers). And now we rejoice to-day to know that a Memorial Home such as this has been erected in Stirling, sacred to the memory of those who have given their lives in their country's service. (Cheers). It will be a permanent memorial of these brave men of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, a living monument which will silently speak to others in all time to come of their example of earnest, self-sacrificing devotion to duty. We can think of them as the poet of old expressed it—

"How sleep the brave who sink to rest,
By all their country's wishes blest!"

(Cheers). I have now the great honour of declaring the Memorial Home open. (Loud cheers).

The Rev. George Mure Smith, chaplain to the garrison engaged in prayer, beseeching the divine blessing upon the work inaugurated that day.

Provost Thomson then said a few words. He referred to the fuller appreciation of the soldier and of the soldier's work that was now felt by all classes of the community, and said that if our soldiers had been somewhat neglected in the past, he hoped they would accept the opening of this Home as an indication of the place that they would henceforth occupy in the hearts and feelings of the people. (Cheers). Colonel Trotter had most thoroughly accomplished the object he had in view in establishing this Home. He had referred to the assistance he had got from many gentlemen in the work of starting the Home, but his own share had been by far the heaviest and the most responsible. It was the matter of the deepest regret to them all that the Colonel's command at Stirling was expiring. He had taken an interest not only in the soldiers and in things that pertained to soldiers, but he had taken also an interest in matters relating to the town and the locality. (Cheers).

The Home would mark the time of his command in Stirling, and for the townspeople he would say that they would miss his kindly presence very much. (Cheers). He had before sitting down to express their indebtedness to her Grace the Duchess of Montrose for coming there that afternoon to open the Home. It was quite a distinction to the occasion to have her Grace amongst them to perform the ceremony. They acknowledged her readiness and willingness to do these kind things, and recognised the distinguished manner in which she accomplished her task. (Cheers). It was a fitting thing that they should have a soldier's wife to open a Soldiers' Home. (Cheers). When her thoughts went out to South Africa to the Duke, he was sure that their thoughts went there too. They hoped his Grace might be spared in the task he had nobly undertaken, and that they would soon welcome his return. (Cheers). He concluded by calling for a hearty vote of thanks to her Grace for her kindness that day. (Loud cheers).

The proceedings terminated with the singing of two verses of the 100th Psalm, the praise being led by the band.

The musical programme was as follows:—Band—Descriptive march, "Irish Patrol" (Puerner); overture, "Crown Diamonds" (Auber); selection, "Iolanthe" (Sullivan); waltz reverse (Waldteufel); piccolo solo, "L'oiseau du Bois" (Le Thiers); la serenata, "Der Engel Lied" (Braga); "God Save the King." Pipers—March, "Barren Rocks"; march, "Green Hills of Tyrol" (Duet); march, "Portree Men" march, "79th Farewell to Gibraltar."

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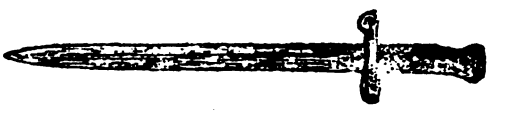

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Kalikata.

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In 1686 the British traders at Hughli quarrelled with the Mogul authorities and removed to a village, 26 miles further down the river, then known as Kalikata. Here they set up their factories and yearly increased in wealth and importance.

Three years later the Bengal servants of the East India Company made this their head-quarters, while gradually increasing in area Kalikata within its bound united the two villages of Satanati and Govindpur, and the three became known as Kalikata or Calcutta.

In 1695 the traders constructed a fort as protection for their shipping in the river against the Mahrattas who at this period distressed the surrounding country with their frequent incursions, and named it Fort William after the then reigning sovereign William III. In 1700 the three villages were purchased from the native ruler, and thus amidst its swamps and jungles Calcutta became the first British possession in Bengal. So unhealthy, however, was the climate, because of its swamps and jungles, that it is said more than a quarter of its European inhabitants died yearly. On the reclaiming of the swamp by drainage the conditions of climate improved; and the importance of Calcutta in the trade of the infant empire of British India was recognised in 1707 by releasing it from the jurisdiction of the Madras presidency. A presidency now, it was accountable to no one but the East India Company's Court of Directors at London. At this time the population of Calcutta was from ten to twelve thousand of all races. In 1881 the census showed a populace of 684,658 and including Howrah 789,864, or an increase of 4,539 per year. Supposing the rate of increase to have been somewhat near this since 1881 up till now the population will number near 839,900, an increase approaching 50,000. Of the total inhabitants 62 per 100 are Hindoos; 32 are Mahomedans, and 4 per 100 Christians.

In 1756 Calcutta was attacked and captured by Suraji-ud-Daula, Nawab of Bengal. The majority of the British officials escaped by way of the river, but those who remained to defend the fort were forced to surrender after a brief but brave resistance. No other course was possible, as the guns of the fort were useless through neglect and the stock of ammunition inadequate. To the number of 146 the British prisoners were thrown into a room scarcely 20 feet square with an opening towards the roof through which the native guards tantalised those within by pretending to offer water, etc. As this took place in the middle of summer the sufferings of the prisoners were dreadful, and after a night of horror, when their prison door was opened only 23 issued forth; 123 having succumbed. A day of retribution, however, was at hand. In the following year Clive, then a Colonel in the East India Army, signally defeated the Nawab at the battle of Plassey. The Nawab retiring to his palace at Murshidabad was soon afterwards murdered by one of his own subjects. As a recompense for the destruction of property, during the seven months' native occupation, a half million pounds sterling was paid to the merchants. On the death of Suraji, Mir Jafar was nominated by the British as his successor, and in the treaty entered into with him, the East India Company was permitted to establish a mint, the visible sign in India of territorial sovereignty. The first coin was issued on August 15th. 1757, but it still bore the name of the Delhi Emperor. The present mint is a splendid building, situated at the junction of the Strand Road with the west-end of Nimtala Street The foundations were laid in 1824 by Major W. N. Forbes, and the structure took six years to complete. The total area of the building and grounds is 18½ acres. The producing capacity of the mint when employed to is 800,000 pieces of coin in a working day of seven hours. Notwithstanding this and that the Calcutta Mint is the largest in the world the loss in the melting of silver is on the average 20 'olas per lakh of rupees, or 20 rupees in every 100,000.

On the restoration of peace after the downfall of Suraji-ud-daula, the merchants returned and rebuilt their ruined warehouses and homes. From this period the modern Calcutta dates. The maidan was gradually drained and cleared of its jungle, while the mansions of European inhabitants by degrees extended eastward and southward towards the Chauringhi quarters. Covering an area of several square miles the maidan is now to Calcutta what Hyde-park is to London. Of the various divisions into which it has been divided, the Eden Gardens is the most particular of note. They are beautifully laid out and are a gift to the city by the Misses Eden, sisters of Lord Auckland, a late Governor-General of India. About the centre of the gardens is a Burmese pagoda taken from Prome after the war of 1854, and re-erected here complete in every detail, including some huge images carved in stone.

Of the many monumental erections dotting the surface of the maidan the most commanding is that erected to Sir David Ochterlony This memorial is 165 feet in height having two galleries at the top, from whence a magnificent view can be had of the city.

Calcutta has been designated the "City of Palaces," and verily it is so, if one could only forget the filth and squalor which surround its

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palatial buildings as does the slimy canals, the ancient grandeur of Venice. A note or two on the most important is but all space will allow, so commencing from Dalhousie Square the first will be the Post Office. This imposing structure is built upon part of the site of the old Fort William. The south-east corner is rounded off, and here rising to the height of 222 feet is a magnificent dome, which, supported on an eight-sided base, with 28 corinthian pillars, is perhaps the most prominent object in any bird's-eye view of the city. At the north-east corner is an archway, on the inner face of which a marble tablet indicates that the flagged pavement close by marks the site of the famous Black Hole of Calcutta. Perhaps here it would be suitable to mention a few particulars regarding the present Fort William. After the taking of Calcutta in 1756 the Old Fort was vacated, and Clive commenced upon a new one (the present) further down the river. Taking 16 years to complete (1757 to 1773) at the cost of £2.000,000, it covers an area of 2 square miles and mounts 600 guns. There are also 80,000 stands of small arms in the place, while the garrison at full strength would be 10,000 men. Fort William, it is calculated, in time of necessity, would be capable of sheltering the European population of Calcutta.

Choosing at random—the next particular edifice that draws attention is that of the Church of St. Andrew built in 1815-1818. The steeple provided with a clock is one of the familiar features of the city. Connected with this steeple there is a curious story. At the time of the erection of St. Andrew's there was a rivalry, it seems, in steeple-building between the leaders of the Churches of England and Scotland in Calcutta. It came to be whispered, however, that the Bishop of the day was trying to induce Government not to sanction the spire for St. Andrew's. This having reached the ears of the then to be minister of St. Andrew's he declared that not only would St. Andrew's have a spire but that he would set on the top a cock to crow over the Bishop. There is, no doubt, room for debate on the truth of the story but nevertheless the cock to this day tops the spire.

It might be as well to mention now St. Paul's, the Cathedral of Calcutta. Standing on the edge of the maidan, along Chauringhi Road, its tall spire, from out amidst its surrounding trees can be seen for miles around. A design for the Cathedral was prepared as far back as 1819, but the project was abandoned until 1839, when, chiefly through the energy of Bishop Wilson, it was carried to a successful end. The building cost altogether £50,000. The architect was Major Forbes, the designer of the Royal Mint. Within the building many hours can be spent studying the monuments and mural tablets

Another place of worship worthy of better notice than we can allot to it here is St. John's Church, or, as it is sometimes called, the "Old Cathedral." It stands at the north-west corner of Government-place. The site is the original burial ground of the old Company's servants; old stones showing that it had been used for such as far back as 1690, or one hundred years before the church itself was erected. The first St. John's being destroyed in 1757, it was not until 1783 that the public fairly bestirred themselves. In 1787 the present St. John's was opened and consecrated by a special act of consecration sent out by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Many memorials of the inhabitants of by-gone Calcutta are scattered around, among which can be seen the tomb of Job Charnock, the founder of Calcutta. Of Job there is little known, but what is, is not much to his credit. Somewhat of a renegade, he took unto himself several wives it is said and lived after the manner of a ——well a latter day saint. Who and what he was, over and above being a pioneer trader, is little known. However, if its founder does no credit to Calcutta, Calcutta does credit to him, and may be by and bye, in the far-off future, some historian will have it that he *was* a saint—a holy man who lived in a time of great darkness, to which he was as a light and so on.

Of the many sights to be seen in and around Calcutta the foregoing are but a few. The tastes of individuals differ, but of the many places of interest in Calcutta there is surely sufficient to satisfy the tastes of every individual member of the battalion, and no doubt a memory of such will be retained and carried with us well on into the future as a memento of Kalikata,—Calcutta,—the City of Palaces.

J. S.

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STRANGELY MIXED.

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The mingling of races in Canada has some curious and at times startling results.

"One day," narrated a gentleman who recently returned to England after a long stay in the Dominion, "a visitor to my office in Quebec sent in his card, which bore the name, 'Andrew MacNab.'

"'Send him in,' I said to my clerk, but to my surprise there entered, not a Scottish Canadian, but a well-dressed Red Indian, who spoke French much more fluently than English.

"Quite a number of Scottish Canadians speak little else but Gaelic, although in many instances they were born in Canada. One of the strangest groups, however, is a class of negroes, or rather descendants of negroes. Their forefathers were blacks, who left America after the emancipation of the slaves there, and took up their residence amongst the Gaelic speaking Scotsmen. And now many of them speak nothing but Gaelic!"

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Colonel Benson's Last Words.

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THE story of Colonel Benson's death is one of the most pathetic and heroic incidents of the war in South Africa. He was one of the most successful leaders of the numerous columns employed by Lord Kitchener to harass the enemy, and was exceedingly popular with our First Battalion who trekked for many months under his command. Indeed, the NINETY-FIRST had only left his column a few days when he encountered the Boers in the disastrous rear-guard action at Brakenlaagte in which he lost his life. When dying he "turned to Colonel Wools-Sampson to take farewell of his comrade and friend, with whom he had made many an adventurous trek, and said: 'Ah, Sampson, old boy, we will do no more night marching together. It is all day now. Good bye. God bless you' and there were tears in every eye but the dying man's as Colonel Wools-Sampson wrung his hand, and hastened out into the night to duty's call." The following lines on this touching incident are taken from "Life and Work" the Magazine of the Church of Scotland:—

THEY bore him gently from the field of glory,
He claimed a warrior's bed;
The musketry had told its awful story,
And left its sheaf of dead.

No more again the bugle call of morning
Would reach his eager ears,
For he had heard the Last Post's fateful warning,
That rounded off his years.

To him no darkness spread its wings of shadow,
The world behind him lies—
For he had caught a glimpse of sunlit meadow,
And daybreak touched his eyes.

He recked not of the night winds softly sighing—
The death dews on his brow;
And turning to his comrade, whispered, dying—
"No more night marching now."

W. CUTHBERTSON.

The illustrious Lord Chatham used proudly to boast that he it was who had formulated the idea of raising Highland regiments. "I sought for merit," said he "whatever it was to be found. It is my boast that I was the first Minister who looked for it and found it in the mountains of the North. I called it forth, and drew into your service a hardy and intrepid race of men who, when left by your jealousy, became a prey to the artifice of your enemies, and had gone nigh to have overturned the State in the war before the last. These men in the last war were brought to combat on your side; they served with fidelity, and they fought with valour, and conquered for you in every part of the world."

"When the Sleeper Wakes."

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THE Prime Minister was snoozing in his leather-bound arm chair; his feet, those solid seventeens which had so often supported him on trouble some occasions when he drove the noble "house" into suspicions of a snore, were negligently planted one on each side of the marble time-piece, in the shape of a Burmese god, which adorned His Lordship's mantel-shelf.

There was a placid air of self-content about him (the Minister, I mean, of course not the god). which was admirably suited to the baldness of his brow, the length of his beard, and the general corpulence of his frame. Originally he had been destined for a military career, but as years went on and his frame expanded in every possible part, except the chest, his relatives ceased to dream of medals and orders, and after a family consultation arrived at the conclusion that so chubby a representative of their noble line could only seek refuge in the palace of a fat bishopric, or what was more romantic though not quite so profitable on the topmost rungs of the ministerial ladder.

So they borrowed a shilling from a second cousin (who felt relieved when told that a shilling was all they wanted), and they threw, "heads" for the ministry, "tails" for the bishopric, and "heads" it was.

Now the great man had reached the noon of his career, with all the physical peculiarities and financial advantages which were part and parcel of his walk in life and he had just concluded that it was time he rested under the laurels with which he had created a canopy over his political throne.

His Lordship opened his eyes, looked at his watch, the striking of a gong somewhere inside the Burmese god had disturbed the tranquility of his slumber and sighed the contented upheaval of a man who has dined handsomely.

A silent butler with a geranium tinted nose entered and apologetically murmured,

His Lordship frowned.

He was not without his troubles and this one was the worst with which he had ever contended, for the good man's nature was truly conservative, he had been brought up by those whose motto is as simple as it is alluring "never do to-day what can be put off till to-morrow."

The minister for war, who had dispensed by this time with all ceremony, and on entering had flung himself into the most comfortable chair he could find, was an energetic young man with a reserve of statistics which he was able to fire off at a moment's notice causing frightful havoc to the great man's nerves as a result of which he was looked upon as one of those nightmares we have always with us and without which

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we should doubtless blissfully dream away our existence regardless of a past, heedless of the curtain which conceals our future.

"My dear fellow" murmured the minister with a yawn. "What frightful boots! Where did you get them?

"These?" And the young man surveyed his heavily-booted foot with a sarcastic smile. "Oh, I got them on trial, they are the new issue. You know the men are continually complaining about their weight and the general uselessness of the material, so I sent for a pair for my own personal inspection as the most satisfactory way of settling the matter. It is always the way with contractors. You remember, during the last affair in Egypt we sent out about"—the great man looked at the Burmese god and hastily interrupted.

"Yes, of course, I know. by the way, you wanted to see me? I am due in the house in half-an-hour's time." "Right, I was just about to begin, when you mentioned about the boots. I take a keen interest in them you see, a personal one," and the minister for war smiled sadly, "they are a little better than I expected, but are a trifle unwieldy. I have reckoned out that if we could provide a better issue, we should require per battalion an average extra sum of——"

"Yes, just so," broke in the great man, "how sultry the weather has become, hasn't it?"

The minister for war drew from his pocket a roll of papers, spreading them out on his knee, and adjusted his pince-nez, "I wanted to speak to your Lordship with reference to this proposed increase of pay."

His Lordship flashed him a quick look and murmured. "Yes, I am afraid it must be done, but I suppose it has its advantages?"

"Oh, undoubtedly. It can be proved, my lord, by statistics." "Spare me them my dear boy" and the great man moved uneasily in his seat. "It seems to me a great pity that such a course is necessary; you see the expense involved is almost without precedent, it isn't a conservative measure at all.

The minister for war shrugged his shoulders and removed his pince-nez before replying.

"I don't quite think that is the way to look at it, you know. Some step such as this, something that may be called an advantage—even if it isn't one—has become absolutely necessary. Did you read 'Untruth' this morning?"

"Can't say I did. I never do, you know replied the great man." "I have grown, in fact I might say, we have all grown quite accustomed to hits in the back. You are still a young—a rising man, they won't touch you much yet,—but wait till your aspirations lead you higher—wait and see!" The great man stroked his beard with the air of an experienced weather prophet.

"They had about a page-and-a-half of a tirade on what we hadn't done and should do—utterly impossible rot you know, but I rather think there was a gleam of method in their madness all the same."

"Something must certainly be done. What are your proposals?" The minister read from a paper.

"Don't you think," murmured the great man, gazing vacantly into the fire, "perhaps we could manage this by some more gentle measures. For instance, how about another messing allowance? We might let the men feed themselves; though, in a way of course, Government could do it all the same.

The minister for war shook his head vigorously.

"Barrack life might be made more pleasant—little cubicles with pictures and a chair,—I think we might add in a chair, it would look well, for visitors to see, don't you think?"

"It wouldn't do,—but it is on my programme for later developments."

"We might double the rations, or perhaps free liquor—limited—might be an attractive idea?" "Very probably!" "But that privilege would be apt to be abused. No, I think we must follow out my idea—the other improvements are for the future."

The great man shuddered involuntarily.

"We might give them all carte-blanche to marry and arrange a pension for their wives and children, but it wouldn't do, we'd be providing for half the population. What about new uniforms, something showy—a nice new rifle and a "Baden Powell" hat. They are all the rage now, I am sure the idea would catch like wild-fire, and in a month we wouldn't even have standing room left." The minister for war was tapping his knee with his glasses impatiently.

"All this can be done afterwards, my lord,—at present we have but one thing to do, and that is to provide so solid and substantial an improvement as to counteract the former error of providing an army on the 'given away with a pound of tea' scale."

The Prime Minister looked up sharply.

"Something substantial?" he queried "now, I like that immensely."

His companion had risen. "Your lordship knows as well as I do," he said with a trace of a smile "that we have got to strike a happy medium. All these ideas are excellent but do not meet every body's taste. The most vulnerable spot in a man is his pocket. If we touch this satisfactorily army popularity will increase by leaps and bounds, then, and only then, we shall have peace Am I not right?"

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The great man arose unsteadily and touched a bell. "Yes, I believe you are but——let us go to the house" he said, and turning towards the door murmured in a choked and emotional manner 'I suppose it must be done, eh?—But it gets on my nerves to a frightful extent. It's time I became pensioned off—what with concentration camps, and fleets, and now the army! It's without precedent—it's unconservative!"

And the little Burmese god on the mantel-shelf squinted horribly and went on with his perpetual tick-tick. For he was a conservative bred and born, and acted thoroughly up to his morals.

CAVEAT ACTOR.

——:o:——

My First Interview with Sir Colin Campbell.

—o—

ON the 24th October 1854 reinforcements of Russian troops, under General Liprandi, arrived by the Woronzoff road from the interior. When the order was given for every available man off duty to turn out and throw up shelter trenches we all knew that there was an immediate prospect of severe fighting in store for us.

After the usual salt junk and hard biscuit dinner, the latter by the way being a legacy from Wellington's army of the Peninsular war, we started our task in earnest. We worked as the old Ninety-Third used to work, with a heart and a will. Shortly before sunset Sir Colin Campbell, accompanied by his aide-de-camp and the Turkish interpreter, came along to see what progress had been made and appeared well pleased with what he saw. On arriving at the Turkish works which were on our right, he seemed to be much displeased and allowed his feelings full vent, calling the Turks everything but Scotchmen. He soon calmed down however and said as he passed us "what would the parish minister say if he heard me to-day"? Without any thought I sang out "he would think you were an old———" I was at once made a prisoner by a Sergeant standing beside me, but Sir Colin came back and ordered my release, saying I answered his question correctly.

J. H HUTTON,
(*Late Col. Sergt., 93rd*).

Church Collections.

—o—

Collections for the Soldiers' Home in Stirling and the Almora Leper Asylum were made on the first Sundays of March and April and amounted to Rs. 30 and Rs 15 respectively. The following letters of acknowledgment have been received by our chaplain, the Revd. Mr. D Gillan:—

STIRLING CASTLE.
Scotland, April 1st, 1902.

DEAR SIR,

I am desired by Colonel Trotter and the Committee of the Soldiers' Home to thank you very much for the subscription you so kindly forwarded, which was collected at the Sunday Service of the 2nd Bn., Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. The Home is to be formally opened on April 5th by the Duchess of Montrose, although it has been really open for the last six weeks. I hope it may prove a benefit to the men of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and prove a fitting memorial to those of the regiment who have died for their King and Country.

Yours sincerely,
A. CAMPBELL, CAPTAIN,
91st Regimental District.

Almora, N.-W.-P., April 15th, 1902.

DEAR SIR,

I am very grateful to you for sending the collection on behalf of the Almora Leper Asylum amounting to Rs. 15, which I have entered in the accounts of the Asylum, and trust that every year you will be kind enough to remember our needs in the same way. The regular Superintendent of the Asylum is now in England (Mr. Bullock), but is expected to return at the end of the year.

Yours faithfully,
E. S. OAKLEY,
(*Of the London Missy. Society*),
Supdt., Leper Asylum, Almora.

——:o:——

"WI'OUT BEIN' PAIRSONAL."

Complaints had been made at an Aberdeenshire village kirk of the discomfort caused by dripping umbrellas in and outside the various pews.

To remedy the nuisance a member of the congregation presented the kirk with a large umbrella-stand which was fixed up in the lobby of the building.

After reading out the notices on a certain Sunday, one of the elders remarked—

"Ye'll nae doot hae seen the splendid umbrella-stand that Mr. Gillespie has presented tae the kirk. Noo, umbrellas are umbrellas and human nature is human nature, sae ye'll nae think it wrang o'me if I ask those who sit near the pulpit, and canna leave the kirk so soon as the others, tae bring their oldest umbrellas; and, wi'out bein' pairsonal, I may say that we should all feel a heap easier if Rab Tamson would take up a sitting a wee bit farther frae the door."

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CALCUTTA FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

Matches to be played by the Regimental Team during Season 1902.

Date.	Match.	Ground.	Winners.	Goals For	Goals Against	Points.
17th May 1902	93rd Highlanders *v.* 79th R. G. A. ..	79th R. G. A. ..				
20th ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, Howrah ..	Howrah ..				
22nd ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, Barrackpur R. A. ..	93rd Highlanders				
24th ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, K. O. S. B. ..	Ditto ..				
28th ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, Dalhousie ..	Ditto ..				
31st ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, Calcutta ..	Calcutta ..				
3rd June ,,	,, ,, ,, Rangers ..	Rangers ..				
7th ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, Y. M. C. A. ..	93rd Highlanders				
10th ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, Howrah ..	Ditto ..				
14th ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, 79th R. G. A. ..	Ditto ..				
18th ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, K. O. S. B. ..	Neutral ..				
21st ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, Dalhousie ..	Dalhousie ..				
24th ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, Calcutta ..	93rd Highlanders				
26th ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, Barrackpur R. A. ..	Neutral ..				
1st July ,,	,, ,, ,, Rangers ..	93rd Highlanders				
5th ,, ,,	,, ,, ,, Y. M. C. A. ..	Ditto ..				

The following Teams have entered the League :—"Calcutta," "Dalhousie," "Rangers," "Howrah," "Y. M. C. A.," "79th Coy., R. G. A.," "K. O. S. B.," and "Barrackpur R. A," 93rd Highlanders.

Hockey.

—o—

A less barbarous game perhaps than shinty, still of dangers there are quite enough to lend Hockey the necessary spice required in sport to suit the reckless tastes of the regimental bloods. It is a foster brother to shinty, therefore, a Scotsman can indulge in it without lessening his patriotism. This has been taken for granted however, and with all the usual spirit derived from impartiality. The Regiment has taken to it keenly. "B" Company, as far back as 1899, had a full complement of *weapons* and continued to be the only Company thus provided until the regiment's arrival in Calcutta, when the remaining seven to be in the 'fashion" purchased in their turn the necessary sticks and balls. For the short time, during which there has been a regimental "team" wonders have been performed. The record of the "team," so far being—matches played 17: won 5: drawn 6: lost 6; and reaching the 3rd round of the Beighton Hockey Cup. Beating the Town Club by 1 to *nil*, our success was short lived, we were placed hors-de-combat by Ballygunge in a game which resulted in their favor by 4 to *nil*. Several Company matches were played throughout the month. The most interesting of these were "B" Company *versus* "E" resulting in a win for the latter —2 goals to 1, and "H" *versus* "G" ending in a win for "H."

Overheard in the Temperance Room :—

Draftie.—Bearer what hae ye got for eating?

Bearer.—We have got e' bread and butter, e' rooty, and e' door-step.

Draftie.—Umph: I've had enough bread and butter since I was born, and as for rooty, we get plenty frae the Government, Noo jist for a change I'll hae a door-step.

Bearer.—Smoled a smile and——

What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

That he wisna a sojer he wis only a volunteer.

That he had five good suits of white jackets.

That he had three white khaki jackets worth more than Rs. 3.

That he thought the white khaki trews were the best bargain.

That it thinks the types in the store-room are upside doon.

That hae ye got that hockey stick?

That ma mither writes every week, but a' only get her letters yince a fortnight.

That the distance accoonts for that.

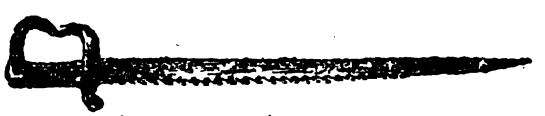
WHAT ITS COUSIN AT JALAPAHAR SAYS.

That he missed me for guard yesterday for to-morrow.

That "ye can fa oot, but dinna move ye're left fit.

That we're getting army Reform in *slow time*.

That the command wis Bayonet exercise in slow time —Slow, Commence.



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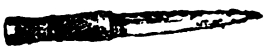
Ninety-third Calendar for June 1902.

1	S.	Battalion 1,175 strong, fully armed, and equipped for field service—Curragh, 1878.
2	M.	Lieut.-Genl. William Sutherland, d. Colonel, 1862.
3	Tu.	Nos. 3, 7 and 8 Companies under Lieut.-Col. Adrian Hope, emb. Plymouth on *Belleisle* for China, 1857. Lieut.-General Alex. Fisher Macintosh, K. H. Colonel, 1862.
4	W.	Col. George Johnstone, Major-General, 1814, Lieut.-General Sir Thos. Hislop, Bart., G.C.B., to 51st Foot, 1822, Lieut.-Genl. Sir Hudson Lowe, K.C.B., Colonel, 1822 Headquarters and remainder Companies under Lieut.-Col. Leith Hay, reviewed at Gosport by Her Majesty. Lieut.-Genl. William Sutherland, Colonel, 1860.
5	Th.	Become holders for one year of the Beatty Challenge Shield 1901.
6	F.	
7	S.	
8	S.	
9	M.	Re-embarked Yenikale for Balaclava, 1855.
10	Tu.	Attack on the Political Officer's escort at Maizar, Waziristan, 1897.
11	W.	
12	Th.	
13	F.	Sailed with 1st Division to Varna, 1854.
14	S.	Portsmouth to Woking, 1858.
15	S.	Disembarked Plymouth from Cape, 1814; strength 52 sergeants, 22 drummers, 944 men. Landed Varna, 1854. Aberdeen to Edinburgh Castle, 1871.
16	M.	Re-embarked Crimea on H. M. S. *Sidon* for England, 1856; end Crimea War. Headquarters, embarked Portsmouth on S.S. *Mauritius* for China, 1857.
17	Tu.	Right Wing Team win Ranikhet Football Tournament, 1901. Lieut.-General Sir Geo. Luck, K.C.B. named new Drill Square and Recreation ground at Ranikhet, "the Sutherland Recreation Ground," 1901.
18	W.	First assault on Sebastopol, 1855 (93rd in position on Woronzoff Rd.) Orders to mobilise for Tochi Expedition received, Nowshera, 1897.
19	Th.	
20	F.	
21	S.	Thermometer registered 119½ in heavily shaded verandah of officers' quarters, Nowshera, 1896. Detachment from Cherat rejoined headquarters for Tochi F. F., 1897.
22	S.	
23	M.	
24	Tu.	Royal Review at Windsor before Her Majesty and the Shah of Persia, 1813.
25	W.	
26	Th.	Inspection by General Ellis, Commanding Peshawar District, before proceeding on Field Service, 1897.
27	F.	Left Nowshera in two troop trains for Kushalgarh, 1897; strength 775. John Hasluck Campbell, Lieut.-Col., 1899.
28	S.	Detrained Kushalgarh, 1897; left same evening for Edwardesabad.
29	S.	
30	M.	



REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 4771, Private J. Oliver, "E" Company dated 1st April 1902; No. 4619, Private W. McKinnon, "G" Company, dated 5th April 1902.

To be Acting Bandsman.—No. 7617, Private M. Christie, "B" Company.

To be School Assistant.—No. 5842, Corporal R. Glass, "H" Company.

To be Gymnastic Instructor.—No. 6295, Lance-Corporal W. Alder, "H" Company.

To be Acting Piper.—No. 4207, Private R. Nicholson, "G" Company.

To be Pioneers.—No. 4575, Private J. Dalan, "B" Company; No. 6844, Private R. Wright, "C" Company.

To be Drill Instructor.—No. 4983, Lance-Sergeant M. Rutherford, "H" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 2d. per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 5734, Pte A. Gibson. | No. 7797, Pte. J. Morrison.
No. 3930, Pte. W. McMaster.

"D" Company.

No. 5681, Pte. J. Monteith.

"E" Company.

No. 5729, Pte. G. Barnett. | No. 5725, Pte. W. Brown.
„ 5728, „ R. Anderson. | „ 5724, „ J. Lamb.
„ 5751, „ J. Marquis. | „ 5732, „ C. Ross.
No. 5735, Pte. T. Young.

"F" Company.

No. 5762, Pte. J. McEachern. | No. 5750, Pte. D. Raphael.

"H" Company.

No. 3506, Pte. A. Duncan.

At 1d. per diem:—

"B" Company.

No. 7472, Drm. A. Aitchison. | No. 5472, Pte. J. Robertson.

"C" Company.

No. 7456, Pte. G. Bell. | No. 3535, Pte. J. Richmond.

"D" Company.

No. 4218, Pte. W. Scott. | No. 7517, Pte. W McInnes.
No. 7751, Pte. W. Ramsdale.

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

Granted Second Class Certificate of Education:—
No. 7163, Corporal J. E. Barker, "G" Company.

Granted Third Class Certificate of Education:—
No. 7159, Private D. McBride, "C" Company.
„ 7368, „ W. Sherlaw, "D" „
„ 7952, „ J. Dickson, "D" „

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Certificates.

No. 6295, Lance-Corporal W. Alder obtained a 1st Class Gymnastic Certificate, dated 15th April 1902.

Re-engagements and Extensions.

To complete twenty-one years' service.—No. 4526, Sergeant W. J. Watt, "C" Company.

To complete twelve years' service with the Colors.—No. 5851, Private J. Roberts, "G" Company.

Transfers.

To the Unattached List as 1st Class Sergeant-Instructor in the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps.—No. 2956, Sergeant G. A. Gunn, "G" Company.

To the Unattached List as a Sergeant in the supply and Transport Corps.—No. 5853, Lance-Corporal J. Brown, "G" Company.

To the 36th Battery, R. F. A.—No. 5851, Private J. Roberts, "G" Company.

Taken on Strength.

Recruit.—James Jack enlisted on the 30th April 1902 and posted to "D" Company.

Struck off Strength.

Embarked for England on S.S. "Plassey," 28th March 1902:—

No. 7198,	Private	T. Coyne,	"A" Company.
„ 4650,	„	G. Hutchinson,	"B" „
„ 5572,	„	J. Wright,	"C" „
„ 3976,	„	A. Donnelly.	"B" „
„ 4330,	„	A. Kerr,	"B" „
„ 5000,	„	J. McKay,	"F" „

Embarked for England on Troopship "Armenia," 4th April 1902.—No. 3138, Sergeant W. Fawcett "F" Company.

Embarked for South Africa on S.S. "Aurania," 9th April 1902:—

No. 3276,	Sergt.	J. Ward,	"B" Company.
„ 3808,	„	J. Allison,	"D" „
„ 4535,	„	J. Barrett,	"G" „

Furloughs.

Rejoined Battalion from England:—

No 5031,	Private	R. Mackay,	"A" Company.
„ 5291,	Lce.-Cpl.	R. Tawse,	"D" „
„ 4949,	Private	J. Chalmers,	"E" „
„ 4651,	„	H. Booth,	"F" „
„ 5297,	„	W. Kirkland,	"G" „
„ 4972,	„	J. Keir,	"C" „
„ 4603,	„	D. Brown,	"E" „
„ 5454,	„	D. Ritchie,	"E" „
„ 5550,	Lce.-Cpl.	F. Risdon,	"F" „
„ 5160,	Private	D. Perston,	"H" „

Number Allotted.

The number 8315 was allotted to the late Private Robert Isdale, "D" Company.

Service Restored.

In accordance with para. 1842, 2, R.—No 5546, Piper J. McLachlan, "H" Company.

DRAFT TO SOUTH AFRICA.

Embarked at Bombay on 18th April en route for South Africa per troopship "Syria."

No 3581	Sergt.	Reavis F.	"C" Company.
„ 3145,	„	Olden W.	"A" „
„ 4510,	„	Watson J.	"F" „
„ 4806,	„	Hearn, J.	"H" „
„ 4301,	L.-Sergt.	Gilbert J.	"H" „
„ 5115.	Corpl.	Jamieson R.	"B" „
„ 8321	„	Allan, P.	"H" „
„ 5493.	„	Hudgnton. J.	"A" „
„ 5645.	„	Bracken, H.	"G" „
„ 4397,	„	Cody, E G.	"D" „

"A" Company.

No. 4078,	Pte.	Dale, A.	No 5048,	L.-C	Hamill, T.
„ 5087,	„	Hunter, M.	„ 5162,	Pte.	Gannon, M.
„ 5190,	„	Dott, G.	„ 5212,	„	White, A.
„ 5226,	„	Halliday, W.	„ 5290,	„	Allan, W.
„ 4664,	„	McAllister, J.	„ 5580,	„	Eccles, J.
„ 5582,	„	Allison, J.	„ 5583,	„	Dick, J.
		6047,	Pte.	Gannon, M.	

"B" Company.

No. 3488,	Pte.	Ferguson, D.	No 4072,	Pte.	Carter, T.
„ 4289,	„	Wright, R	„ 4286,	„	Ewing, W.
„ 4290,	„	McCallion, J.	„ 4379	„	Logan, J.
„ 4532,	„	McLean, E.	„ 4370,	„	Donnelly, J.
„ 4752,	„	Blyth, T.	„ 2936,	„	Robinson, J.
„ 4873,	„	Maloney, J.	„ 4979,	„	Mossman, M.
„ 4991	„	Anderson, J.	„ 5052,	„	Hunter, R.
„ 5238,	„	Rowe, T.	„ 5234,	„	Gray, A. W.
„ 5252,	„	Ferguson, L.	„ 5261,	„	Jones, J.
„ 5349,	„	Clarkson, J.	„ 5405,	„	McDermott, S.
„ 5429,	„	Campbell, J.	„ 5433,	„	Morrison, C.
„ 5456,	„	Bell. T.	„ 5479.	„	Anderson, D.
„ 5492,	„	High, W.	„ 5508,	„	Taylor, J.
		No. 3747,	Pte.	Trainer, T.	

"C" Company.

No. 3364,	Pte.	Conway, J.	No. 3536,	Pte.	Black, J.
„ 3856,	„	Crosbie, P.	„ 4286,	„	Foreman, A.
„ 4738,	„	Speedie, W.	„ 4948,	„	Clements, C.
„ 5082.	„	Soutar, J.	„ 5000,	„	Forrest, J.
„ 5303,	„	Hoy, A.	„ 5356,	„	Leitch, J.
„ 5392,	„	Duncanson, A.	„ 5485	„	Holden, J.
„ 5511,	„	Jack A.	„ 5523,	„	Geddes. J.
„ 5735,	„	Boyd, J.	„ 5534,	„	Forrestor, C.
„ 5548,	„	McDonald, J.	„ 5553,	„	McKay, W.
„ 5554,	„	Sharp, M.	„ 5558,	„	King, W.
„ 5562,	„	McNair, J.	„ 5563,	„	Dott, J.
		No. 5569,	Pte.	Sneddon, J.	

"D" Company.

No. 3615,	Pte.	Nisbet, J.	No 4492,	Pte.	Aitken, J.
„ 4568,	„	McGregor, A	„ 4818,	„	Lapsley, J.
„ 4077,	„	Connell, W. M.	„ 4971,	„	Morrison, P.
„ 4817,	„	Fox, P.	„ 5193,	L.-C.	Cole, W.
„ 5328,	„	Cunningham, J.	„ 5482.	Pte.	Hyde, B
„ 5524,	„	Edwards, H.	„ 5535,	L.-C.	Watson, R.
		No. 5587,	Pte.	Johnstone, W.	

"E" Company.

No. 4591,	Pte.	Duffy, T.	No. 4594,	Pte.	Coleman, J.
„ 4646,	„	Gowans, T.	„ 4655,	„	Walton, J.
„ 4719,	„	Lawrence, J.	„ 5480,	„	Kennedy, W.
„ 4765,	„	Paterson, J.	„ 4838,	„	Bowie, A.
„ 4956,	„	Collins J.	„ 5003,	„	Hall, W.
„ 5021,	„	Duncan, G.	„ 5034,	„	Lynch, A.
„ 5128,	„	Cairns, F.	„ 3588,	„	Trotter, W.
„ 5354,	„	Hunley F.	„ 5310,	„	McDonald, J.
„ 5433,	„	McLean, J.	„ 5296,	„	Hughes, J.

"F" Company.

No. 3769,	Pte.	Salmons, J.	No. 3789,	Pte.	Goff, W.
„ 5265,	„	Hamilton, A.	„ 4558,	„	Ross, G.
„ 4570,	„	Warnock, T.	„ 4678.	„	McCready, C.
„ 4881.	„	Fraser, J.	„ 4821,	„	Miller, W.
„ 4994,	„	Gentles, J.	„ 5138,	„	Daily, F.
„ 5142,	„	McGee, P.	„ 5232,	„	McNicol, J.
„ 5263,	„	Duncan, R.	„ 5275,	„	Brown, H.
		No. 5344,	Pte.	Robson, H. E.	

"G" Company.

No. 4813,	Pte.	Savage, J.	No. 4830,	Pte.	Campbell, P.
„ 4976,	„	Forbes, F. W.	„ 4460,	„	Scullion, J.
„ 5233,	„	Taylor, J.	„ 5305,	„	Brown, D.
„ 5318	„	Gordon H,	„ 5413.	„	Douther, R.
„ 5427,	„	Henderson, R.	„ 5515,	„	Maslin, J.
		No. 5517,	Pte.	Archibald, J.	

"H" Company.

No. 3024,	Pte	Hutchison, J.	No. 4837,	Pte.	McKenna, H.
„ 4576,	„	McDougall, A.	„ 4883,	„	Turner, J.
„ 4946,	„	McPherson, D.	„ 5068,	„	Watt, G.
„ 5089,	„	Duncan, A.	„ 5148,	„	White, H.
„ 5156,	„	Jamieson, J.	„ 5159,	„	Laird, T.
„ 4871,	„	Wright, A	„ 5251,	„	Carruthers, W.
„ 5304,	„	McColl, H.	„ 5428,	„	Brown, T.
„ 5464,	„	McNee, R.	„ 5496,	„	Burns, J.
„ 5503,	„	Reeves, C.	„ 5531,	„	Brown, J.

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The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following papers:—

"The Men of Harlech"	for February.
"The St. George's Gazette"	" "
"The A. S. C. Journal"	" March.
"The Dragon"	" "
"The Light Bob Gazette"	" "
"The Queen's Own Gazette"	" "
"The Thistle"	" "
"The St. George's Gazette"	" "
"The Suffolk Gazette"	" April.
"The Oakleaf"	" "
"The Globe and Laurel"	" "
"The Sapper"	" "
"The Green Howard's Gazette"	" "
"The Military Mail,"	Weekly.
"The Aldershot News,"	"
"The Rothesay Express,"	"

—:o:—

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Contributions for insertion in the *Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the last day of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly, in ink, and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

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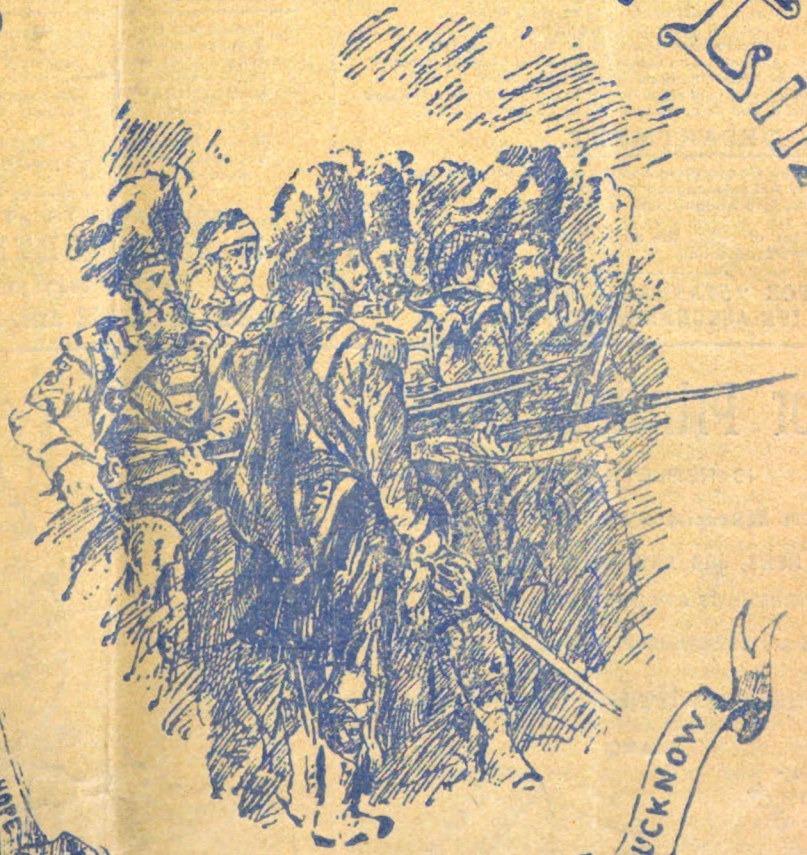

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Vol. VI.

THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 2—Vol. VIII.] CALCUTTA—JUNE 1902. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

We deeply regret to have to note the death of Lance - Corporal Dale of "C" Company who met a cruel end by being run down by a gharry in the town on the night of the 2nd May. As far as can be gathered he was bicycling just outside the Soldiers' Home when the driver of a gharry suddenly swerved across his path and he had no time to steer clear. The shaft struck him low down on the side causing a serious internal injury, and he was removed at once to the hospital but died in the early morning of the 3rd after great suffering throughout the night. All were deeply shocked at the sad news, and we take this opportunity of expressing our sympathy with his bereaved relatives. He was a popular and promising soldier and bore an "exemplary" character.

* * * *

Manœuvre parades in Calcutta have to be conducted very much on the "make believe" owing to the smooth open maidans which are the chief feature of the field of action.

Taking cover is simply a farce, as the few trees scattered about are no practical protection, and we have noticed some of the less courageous fighting men resorting to the white posts of wooden palings and even to golf flags, the latter much to the dismay of the Calcutta golfers, who, we are bound to say, have treated the situation most good naturedly, realising, we hope, our unavailing efforts to combine military principles with as little annoyance as possible to themselves as non-combatants.

* * * *

The evening of the 23rd May was all taken up with preparations to welcome the draft from South Africa who, 150 strong, were expected to arrive about 8 P.M. However, after a free use of the telegraph wires it was discovered that they had experienced a hitch on the railway, being cut off their train, apparently on the authority of some officious "station masterjee," and after a further disappointment about 11 P.M. they finally arrived and marched into the fort about 3 A.M. In spite of the inconvenient hour all was in readiness for them, an excellent meal being provided by the companies to which they were posted, and this, needless to say, was done ample justice to. All news was reserved till the "morning" as the men of the draft were quite ready after their fatigning journey to turn in. Captain Barchard, of the Reserve of officers, with Lieutenants Ruel of the York and Lan :aster Regiment and Nisbet of the Imperial Yeomanry, were responsible for their safe arrival, and after handing over returned direct to South Africa. The men have already made a satisfactory impression, many of them having served throughout the campaign. A list is published in another column.

* * * *

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According to the arrangements made the birthday of His Majesty the King-Emperor was celebrated on May 30th, and we observed the usual holiday on that date. At 6-30 A.M. the battalion paraded for the *feu-de-joie* and cheers which took place on the Brigade Parade Ground under the command of Lieut.-Col. J. H. Campbell in the absence of Col. Porter, who was unhappily on the sick list. The XXth Bombay Infantry and the Xth Jats kept us company, while the 79th Battery, R. G. A., paraded on the S.-E. bastion and fired a salute of 31 guns.

* * * *

Apropos of the unfortunate accident by which Lance-Corporal Dale met his death it seems incredible to notice the dangerous way in which the native gharry drivers are allowed to behave. There is hardly any one who bicycles or drives in the town who has not had more than one narrow escape of an accident from being deliberately crossed without any warning by one of these scoundrels.

They have no more idea of the usual signs to be given when stopping or turning than one would give such a creature credit for and yet are allowed to drive in the public streets, but this reflection is little consolation to the other members of the community who, knowing the rules and the signs of the road, are at first simple enough to keep a look-out for them only. Unless one is a somewhat skilful rider, one carries one's life in one's hands by attempting to bicycle in Calcutta, and even for the skilful rider himself there is enough to do to keep an eye on all the gharries within reach so as to avoid a collision.

The only way to improve matters would be to start a campaign of prosecutions and really it would appear to be worth while, since the gharry-wallahs have been told so much about themselves already that the customary epithets make no impression on them, and we can only suppose that they know so well what is thought of them by those who obey the rules of the road that they take for granted the few words of advice, which is all one has time to give them while getting out of their way, before they are uttered.

Perhaps a few convictions for dangerous driving and the accompanying fine would impress the matter on their minds; but who is going to spend his time doing this?

* * * *

Major Aitken has, we believe, been able to exchange from the Garrison Regiment at Malta to which he was to have gone, to a similar regiment forming at Aldershot. We wish him all good luck in his appointment.

* * * *

Captain Glasfurd on appointment from the 91st joined us during the month from the depôt, where he has been Acting Adjutant for a few months in the absence of Major Mackenzie who went to South Africa in January with the Third Battalion. We take this opportunity of welcoming him to the Ninety-Third, and we are sorry that he has not brought Mrs. Glasfurd with him, but hope to see her out during next cold weather.

* * * *

Captain Elphinston has gone to Simla on three months' privilege leave and Lieutenants Herbert and A. J. H. Maclean have rejoined from home.

* * * *

A return of Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men with over six years' service abroad, and desirous of being transferred home, has again been called for. It remains to be seen whether applicants will be more successful in getting away this year than they have been during the past three years.

* * * *

A Simla contemporary gravely announces that the local "Volunteer Sports will in all probability be held on the 14th proximo as the 7th (the original date) would clash with the *horse and dog show.*"

* * * *

With the sanction of the War Office, one of the Boer prisoners in Ceylon, named Hitter, has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the Salvation Army.

* * * *

Congratulations to Captain C. A. H. Maclean on his promotion, also to Captain J. W. Watson, First Battalion. The latter, we understand, has been posted to this battalion and is expected to join direct from South Africa.

* * * *

Captain D. J. Glasfurd on arrival took over pay and command of "G" Company.

Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean will command "F" Company during the absence on leave of Captain Elphinston.

Lieutenant Fenzi now commands "E" Company and 2nd Lieut. K. R. Forbes, "C" Company.

* * * *

The order for companies to fall in on parade has again been changed. The senior company commander is Captain Darroch, and his company, "E," now heads the battalion, followed, in the order named, by "H," "C," "F," "B," "A," "G" and "D" Companies.

* * * *

The summer training of companies is now in full swing, and while one company is having the advantages of cover illustrated (the proverbial blade of grass joke ought to come in here but to

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avoid repetition we omit it), another Company will be found exercising muscles and getting rid of superfluous fat somewhere in the vicinity of the gymnasium.

As Calcutta is unable to boast of a long distance rifle range, musketry enthusiasts have to content themselves with "Morris tube" practice on a small range situated in the moat surrounding the Fort. Companies are now being exercised weekly, three days per week being allowed for this far from satisfying practice.

* * *

The departure of the draft to South Africa has deprived the *Thin Red Line* of the support of one of the oldest and most prolific members of the staff in the person of Private Lauchlan Ferguson. As "Caen Mor" he was indeed a pillar of strength to the paper, and although latterly there was somewhat of a dearth of contributions from his pen, still we cannot view his departure from the battalion with anything but the most sincere regret. Perhaps, amidst the memorable scenes, he will visit in the land to which he has gone, the muse may come to him oftener. We hope so, and that the "Thin yin," of which he was such a leal supporter in the past, may reap the benefit.

* * *

To Captain McNeill we tender our warmest congratulations on his well-earned honour of a companionship of the Distinguished Service Order, and trust he may be long spared to aspire to still higher honours and distinctions.

—:o:—

A new fashion in song titles has been started by that most unhappy song "The Honeysuckle and the Bee," "The Sunflower and the Sun" is the very latest, and so an inundation of such compositions may be expected shortly. The Globe hastens to register the following: "The Rabbit and the Rabbi," "The Cauliflower and the Collie," "The Caterpillar and the Cat," "The Donkey and the Don.") For the protection of the military we place on record the following:—"The Cow and the Khaki Steak," "The Canteen and the Tap," "The Teetotaller and the Tack." Our sole rights to the above titles may, or may not, be infringed with impunity.

—:o:—

With the Draft to South Africa.

—o—

Our regular correspondent writes:—

April 19th, 1902.—Never was order more cheerfully obeyed than the order for the draft to "fall-in" on the night of the 17th April when we left Deolali for Bombay. The order was given at 9 P.M. prompt, and after the ration parties and guard had been warned for the next day, we marched off and entrained. The train left the siding about 9-45 P.M., and soon the lights of Deolali were left behind. "Auld Lang Syne" was played by a small melodeon band of our own, to which the company added a hearty vocal accompaniment. The possession of so many musical instruments augurs well for a few "jiggins" to relieve the monotony of the voyage. After a very tedious journey over the Ghauts, and a great deal of shunting caused by the driver running us into the wrong siding, we arrived in Bombay almost three hours behind time. We had breakfast in the familiar old troopshed at the Sassoon dock, followed soon afterwards by medical inspection. Bandoliers were then issued, after which we dressed and marched to the barges for embarkation. Almost the first ship we met on our way out to the spot where our good ship lay, was the "Olympia," which brought out the furlough men who cheered heartily as we passed. Bantering remarks were passed of course, the old old yarn about "going the wrong road" being trotted out as usual. Our furlough comrades were too old soldiers to be caught napping and rather ingenuously answered the query by an answer and another query, "We have been there already 'and' have you *just* discovered that this is the wrong road." Our ship the "Syria" left the shores of India at 5-50 P.M. (to be exact), and it could easily be seen that the event was the consummation of a long-cherished hope by the smiles that lit up the faces of all on board. There seems to be an alteration for the better in the "messing" on board a transport. What we had was ample and of excellent quality. We are not going straight to South Africa as was at first supposed, as we are to call in at Colombo to take on a contingent of Ceylon Volunteers, who are also for South Africa.

Wednesday, 23rd April.—Arrived at Ceylon, without any particular incident to note during the intervening days, on the 21st at 8 P.M. Colombo looked very pretty from outside the harbour, its beauty, to my idea, being enhanced by the heavy black clouds which hung over the town forming a background which effectively showed off the numerous and many coloured lights of the town. The fore part of the morning was spent in trying to make out the nationalities of the various ships in the harbour. A

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few British war vessels and a Japanese cruiser were amongst the number, but we could not make out their names.

Amusement was also derived from watching the efforts of the Singalese divers, a whole army of whom surrounded the ship as soon as day-light broke. The first one tried to "have us on a string" by telling us that he could not see copper in the water. However, he was neatly taken in by one of our men throwing a pice, wrapped in silvered paper, into the water. On the arrival of a few more competitors for our bounty the first comer wisely concluded that it would be as well to dive for copper, and on the whole the divers made rather a good thing out of it. Some of them even dived for pieces of soap and other odds and ends when money was not forthcoming. At noon, the Volunteers were seen approaching the docks headed by the band of the Gloucester Regiment. They are really a fine looking lot of men, but require a lot of drill before they can be counted as efficient soldiers. (The N.-C. O's of the drafts have taken them in hand for the present). The embarkation was completed by 2 P.M., and our interrupted voyage was continued at 4 P.M. A pretty stiff breeze set up shortly after we left the harbour, causing the ship to roll a bit, and consequently causing a good few of the company, especially the Volunteers, to involuntarily part company with their dinners. However, since then it has been very calm, hardly a ripple disturbs the surface of the water.

Friday, 25th April.—The weather seems to be getting much cooler now, in fact it is becoming positively cold at nights, and we have had to don our warmest shirts and jackets again. The only objects of interest to be seen now are flying fish, numerous shoals of which rise from just in front of the bows of the ship. We have not sighted a ship since leaving Colombo, so you can understand that the life is beginning to get a trifle monotonous, and we are wearying for the end of the voyage.

Tuesday, 29th April.—Have had it a bit more lively since writing last. A concert was held on Saturday night and went off very well On Sunday we were treated to a deluge of rain, causing us to sling hammocks for the first time. Since then, too, we have been accompanied by a strong breeze which makes the ship roll pretty heavily and reduces the demand for food to a minimum.

Wednesday, 30th April.—The wind has now dropped and we are having calm weather again. The sea is like glass, and so every one is happy once more, except perhaps the mess orderly. I forgot to mention before that Sergeant Beavis ("Major" now by the way) is Acting Sergeant-Major, and Sergeant Watson is Provost-Sergeant. There is some talk about a prize being given to the draft which keeps the cleanest messes. If such is the case, judging from what the Captain said, we should stand a good chance of winning the prize. He says our draft has been the cleanest and tidiest lot he has ever had on his ship. Musketry practice is now taking place, each draft firing in turn, the objective being boxes, empty bottles, tin cans, &c., &c., thrown over the stern into the water. Nine or ten rounds per man are allotted for this purpose.

Thursday, 1st May.—On reaching deck this morning we were agreeably surprised to see land on the starboard side, which, on enquiry, I found was the Comoro islands at the entrance to the Mozambique channel through which we are now sailing. There are five of these islands, although only one, the largest and very hilly, was on view to us. To-morrow we are to be issued with our Serge Khaki, and to draw part of our kits preparatory to disembarking which event we expect will take place on Monday morning, 5th May. There is some talk of a Tug-o'-war competition coming off, but as the ties will not be decided till the last day of the voyage, I think I will conclude this with the promise of all further news up to the date of joining the regiment.

Yours as B. 4,
JOHN BULL.

THE following extracts from a letter from a non-commissioned officer of the draft will doubtless be of interest to many:—

Durban, 5th May 1902.

We left Bombay on the 18th April and sailed for Colombo, where we picked up a company of Volunteers, (Tea-planters) jolly good fellows, but I'm rather inclined to think that their knowledge of the military business is—well we'll say "limited." Left Colombo on the 22nd with a complement of 1,400, consisting of 550 Europeans and the remainder natives. The latter were anything but pleasant companions, in fact after the heat stirred them up a fellow required a diving suit when working in their part of the ship.

From Bombay to Colombo our ship hugged the land; then sailed north of the Maldive, Seychelles and Amirante islands, down between Providence and Comoro Islands and mainland into the Mozambique channel. It's a curious route, but I believe it's the proper one according to the naval charts which these boats use when employed in trooping. The route used by the merchant ships is a more direct one and lessens the trip by two days. All Government ships, or ships hired by Government, must use the authorised Government chart to simplify matters in case anything happens.

For messing on board ship the Government allows two shillings and six pence a day for

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officers and seven pence for rank and file. The rations are very good indeed, porridge daily, fresh meat and bread *all the way*, besides potatoes, puddings and now and again curry. The Sergeants had a mess, and by paying a little extra got feeding fit for a king, and owing to the ship not carrying second class passengers, the Sergeants were given 2nd class accommodation, which consisted of bunks and bedding, dining saloon, smoking saloon, baths (hot and cold), plenty of deck space and an unlimited supply of fresh water and other conveniences.

The "Syria" is an up-to-date boat, fitted up with all the latest improvements, and made specially comfortable for troops I assure you. There is a splendid library, and a coffee bar run on reasonable lines. Salmon costs 6*d*., Jam 4*d*., etc., the very same size tins as in India. Matches seems to be the money-making article—1*d*. a box.

We had a good phonograph on board which favoured us with the "very latest" from home. "Have you forgotten," a bouncing bit of military rubbish, is the very latest. Taking things all round we have had a rattling good trip, and would'nt mind the same thing over again.

Before leaving Bombay we drew bandoliers and a suit of Serge Khaki. We also handed in all the ammunition we were issued with by the regiment, and drew some of a later date. Why not issue ammunition at Bombay instead of making people cart what they consider useless stuff all over India? Still one must'nt grumble. Of all the drafts I saw pass through Deolali ours was fitted out the best, some had'nt even warm clothing, a thing we already find adds considerably to our comfort.

We were issued with ten rounds of ball ammunition for practice on board ship. A lot of tins were thrown over board, and we blazed away at them,—fine fun, we lost half the cases and thought we would get a "wigging," but were told "fighting soldiers did'nt trouble about cases," and were told to throw the other half overboard.

The men have behaved splendidly, in fact, you would'nt recognise them now as the same lot who left Calcutta. The sea breeze has worked wonders with all of us; our dried, fed-up, Indian expression gradually gave place to a more homelike one, and every one is as fit and as healthy as can be.

Ramfontein, 8th May 1902.

Landed at Durban on the 5th, the rain coming down in torrents all the time, and soon found ourselves packed into a train, with two days' rations, and ready for immediate despatch up-country. On our way up-country we passed through Pieter Maritzburg, Colenso, Ladysmith, Dundee and several other places of interest. We had a couple of hours' run round Ladysmith and found the place still looks battered, though some of the damage is being repaired now. Seeing the number of little children playing about the streets one would hardly think the place was so lately the centre of such a fierce struggle. The inhabitants were exceptionally kind to us; young ladies ignored old mother Grundy chatting freely, joking, and shaking hands all round.

At Colenso I saw Lord Roberts' son's grave. The spot is a very pretty one, and is surrounded by the graves of about thirty others.

Natal is a splendid country and is well watered, consequently the pasturage is rich. Small, but pretty, cottages dot the surrounding country, and the cattle grazing peacefully alongside the line, seems quite homelike, and makes one of the prettiest pictures I've ever seen.

We passed several refugee camps on our way up and I had a run round one of them. The women and children get the best of care, and judging by the happy smiling faces of the children playing around and the comfortably dressed appearance and contented looks of the mothers, they have'nt much to complain of. I also saw the inside of a couple of the houses and they appeared to be well furnished, clean, and healthy.

The railway lines in Natal are guarded by block-houses, but except at bridges this system is'nt strong until one reaches the Transvaal, and here they are situated thickly and within view of each other. The block-houses are very comfortable and the men who occupy them look strong and fit. Some of the men have made small gardens in front with a neat border of white-washed stones, others own horses, fowls, sheep, etc., in fact some of the block-houses are like small farm houses.

With the exception of block-houses, here and there a camp, and the railway officials' quarters, the Transvaal (near the railway line) looks bare. Of course the large places held by the Army are in good going order, but otherwise the country looks rather desolate.

This morning we arrived at a place—I forget the name of it—just too late for a fight. It appears that last night a party of the enemy rushed the refugee camp. As it only contained Boer women and children, our people thought it would be respected by the enemy and so the guard over it was merely a nominal one. They did their best to resist the enemy, but before re-inforcements could come up, the Boers had looted the camp, carrying away all the women and children's clothing they could lay hands on. The local opinion is that it is not proper Boers who do such things, but bands of robbers of various nationalities, who, I am given to understand, are roaming about the country.

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Open Air Concert.

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Life at Calcutta is a change from the somewhat dull monotony of such places as Ranikhet and Shahjahanpur, and now and then we break out into flashes of life which leave behind them a tale of discussion for a day or two. Of these incidental breaks there are none perhaps more interesting or entertaining than the open air concerts. Unfortunately the weather prevented the first from taking place as intended, but to make up for it the second proved a great success, and the evening of the 7th left nothing to be desired from the point of view of the weather.

We were very pleased with the interest shown in the NINETY-THIRD by those of its friends in Calcutta, both in the number of those who contributed to the gathering by their presence among the audience, and in the kindness of those who lent their aid to the benefit of so large an assembly by their performances on the platform.

The energetic exertions of our Sergeant-Major and his assistants had, before 6 P.M., resulted in a platform, prettily decked with flowers and shrubs, and rows of seats arranged in a semi-circle, while the spot was well chosen under the large trees at one end of our parade ground. A cord stretched between the trees and supported on poles ran round the inner circle of seats, and Chinese lanterns hung along it gave a very effective appearance throughout the evening.

A few minutes after 9-30, the first item on the programme was ably performed by the band, a piece entitled D'Aeres' song. Dougal McIntosh followed, Corporal Glass' rendering of which was by all heartily applauded. The tone was then changed from humour to sentiment by Sergeant-Major Coyle, and so well did he deliver the song that to sharp ears might have come the running sound as of a "feu-de-joie" of sizzling as a tear here and there dropped into the glowing contents of a "cutty" from the sun-burnt cheeks of tender-hearted Highlanders.

From vocal to instrumental the changes were rung by Corporal McLachlin, who gave us a solo on the cornet which was well received, but which, disturbing one or two from a preliminary nap, caused them to ask "is that defaulters off?" which same were reassured by being told that it was only the "Handy Man" giving a solo.

"Marguerite" by Mr. Watson ruffled the even tenor of some breasts, for who has not on some past occasion experienced feelings such as those expressed in the song, and now laments the lost opportunity! Girly Girly by Mr. O'Neill was a revelation, telling the eager inexperienced of the joys and sorrows of an uncertain love, and the simple uninitiated of the disappointments after marriage on finding his idol, after all, but of earth, and of the additional cares on the arrival of the "very image of Papa." Mr. O'Neill responded to an encore by a verse or two of "Fancy I'm off the earth" which was perhaps rather broad but acceptable as forbidden fruits so often are. To those of other than ordinary musical education the selection by Miss Lonmon would, no doubt, be appreciable, but to those such as the writer, of more barbarous ear, it fell rather 'flat.' But, as those who know told, Miss Lonmon performed her somewhat difficult part with taste. Pianoforte playing, like singing, never gives the same satisfaction in the open air as indoors.

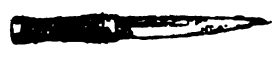
The expectations of a large section of the audience were at this point disappointed at the non-appearance of Mr. McMurray, but his substitute Mr. M. J. Davies gave us "Tommy Atkins," which was well received, and therefore a success. The "Marche des Petits Pierrots" by the quartette, the Misses Gray and Messrs. Russel and Gray followed, and was heartily applauded and encored. An interval was then granted us to discuss the performances up to time.

PART II.

Of the performers already told of most appeared again before the close, and as in the first part performed to their credit and to the satisfaction of all. Mr. Henry's impersonations of the "Babu" were appreciated as much as any other item of the programme. They were so absurdly realistic that one had only to close one's eyes to see the genuine article, in full revolting war paint of grease, white socks and patent leather shoes capped, by a white calico shirt and *dhotee*, as if it was there. In addition to her rendering on the piano, Miss Lonmon contributed also from her source of vocal skill, which was, as before, well received Mr. Joy then followed with a solo on the violin, which was much appreciated.

A Highland Fling by Private McLean and song by Mr. O'Neill "must you?" followed by another musical selection by the quartette brought the programme to a close, and the "National Anthem" gave the signal to disperse, and thus ended a really enjoyable evening.

To Sergeant-Major Ditcham all credit is due for his untiring efforts and the skill he showed in such matters, and we all feel very much indebted to him. The success of the entertainment, however, must have amply rewarded his labours, and we hope will inspire him to fresh efforts as occasion occurs.



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Colonel Trotter.

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Colonel P. D. Trotter, who attained the limit of age in June last year, has vacated the command of 91st Regimental District and been placed on the retired list after nearly 38 years' service, during practically the whole of which he has been closely connected with the 93rd.

Colonel Trotter joined the Regiment, in India, in 1864, and after some five years' service in the East returned to England with it.

In 1879, when the Regiment was at Gibraltar, he accompanied a "Mission" under Sir James Drummond Hay sent by the Home Government to the Court of the Sultan of Morocco, and on his return he wrote an interesting book on his experiences.

Promoted Captain in February 1878, he became Major in October 1882, and in the beginning of 1884 went to the Egyptian army.

During the Gordon Relief Expedition of 1884-1885 he was employed on Lines of Communication being mentioned in despatches for his services and receiving the British Medal, Khedive's Star, Brevet of Lieut.-Colonel, and the 3rd class of the Order of the Mejidie.

Returning to England in February 1886 he became Colonel by Brevet in July 1889, and, suceeding to the command of the 93rd in the following year, he brought the Regiment out to India shortly after, remaining with it until he went on half pay in July 1894, after four years in command.

In January 1898 Colonel Trotter took over from Col. Sunderland the command of the 91st Regimental District, which he has now handed over to Col. Hunt of the 79th. The Stirling Town Council held a special meeting, early last May, to confer upon Colonel Trotter the Freedom of the Burgh on the occasion of his leaving the District.

There was a large attendance. Provost Thompson presided and made an excellent speech, to which Colonel Trotter replied.

After the ceremony Colonel Trotter was entertained at a complimentary dinner in the Golden Lion Hotel. Covers were laid for between 70 and 80 people, numerous speeches were made and Colonel Trotter was the recipient of many good wishes in which we heartily join.

An account of the ceremony and dinner will appear in our next issue.

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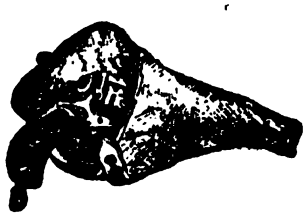

Home and Depot Notes.

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Captain N. Malcolm, D. S. O., has, we are glad to see, passed successfully in French, qualified as an interpreter at the recent examination of officers in foreign languages. Captain Malcolm is attached under Staff-College Regulations to the Cavalry Brigade at Aldershot.

* * *

The War Office have under consideration the question of retention of the white shell jackets of the Highland regiments. Some more tinkering with this garment may therefore be expected shortly.

* * *

Colonel Trotter in his farewell order to the 91st Regimental District expresses his cordial thanks to the militia and volunteer officers for their loyal co-operation and for the help they have invariably given him. He congratulates them on the efficiency of their respective units, and is glad to think his professional connection with some of his volunteer battalions will be maintained during his tenure of command of the 34th Brigade, Field Army. To the officers and non-commissioned officers who have served in the Castle during the war he can only say that he feels it is owing to the way they have worked with him during a period of abnormal pressure and considerable anxiety that the business of the depôt was carried on without a hitch, and to his entire satisfaction.

* * *

The rank of Quartermaster-Sergeant, except for purely regimental establishments, will be dropped in favour of a more appropriate title which is now being considered.

* * *

The Commander-in-Chief has decided that in future in order to relieve corps from the strain which is imposed on them by the present system of range duties to the detriment of their efficiency and training every squadron and company (Regular and Militia) will provide its own markers and non-commissioned officers at the butts, and has directed that the butt memorandum be no longer used. This system will at first require careful supervision and a well-organised system of reliefs—especially on extensive ranges to prevent delay, and undue fatigue to men who have to shoot. Lord Roberts looks to commanding officers to ensure care and supervision on the part of officers and non-commissioned officers, who will be held responsible for any serious irregularity.

* * *

A marriage has been arranged, and will take place early in autumn, between Major J. S. Napier, late 93rd Highlanders, only surviving son of the late Mr. John Stirling Napier of Merchiston, Renfrewshire, of 8 Grosvenor.

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Street, Edinburgh, and Caroline Charlotte, younger daughter of the late Colonel Keith Ramsay Maitland, 79th Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, of 2 Douglas Gardens, Edinburgh.

* * *

Lieutenant Lord G. H. L. Dundas, from 3rd Battalion, has been gazetted to a second Lieutenancy in succession to Lieutenant F. G. G. Cunningham, 91st, who has been placed on temporary half pay.

* * *

At a recent meeting of the Stirling Town Council Provost Thomson in an eulogistic speech moved that the freedom of the Burgh be conferred on Colonel Trotter on the occasion of his vacating the command of the 91st Regimental District. The proposal was unanimously and enthusiastically agreed to.

* * *

The Second Active Service Company (Argyll and Sutherland Volunteers) had a stirring welcome home on their arrival at Stirling recently from South Africa. They were under the command of Lieutenant Ross, Alloa. After an address of welcome from the Provost the company, headed by the Volunteer Pipe Band, and accompanied by Colonel Trotter, Commanding the 91st Regimental District, and the Provost and Magistrates, marched to the Castle from the Shore Road siding, where they had disentrained, *viâ* Murray Place, King Street, and Baker Street. For three months the company was with Benson's column; afterwards it was located in the block-house line between Pretoria and Balmoral. The men bore the appearance of hard work. Three of the company died of disease, and five were invalided home. The company was disbanded in the afternoon.

* * *

Of the surplus of £6,244 18*s.* 5*d.*, realized in connection with the bazaar held recently under the auspices of the 2nd (Paisley) V. B. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, a sum estimated at £3,650 will be required to entirely free the Drill Hall from debt; and, in view of the great success of the bazaar, it has been decided to devote part of the proceeds to supplying a new set of instruments for the band at a cost of £300,—total, £3,980, leaving a balance of £2,264 18*s.* 5*d.* available for the provision of a new rifle range for the use of the battalion. Sir Thomas Glen-Coats and his fine battalion are to be congratulated upon the magnificent success which attended their efforts to make the bazaar the splendid financial success it was. The battalion can now credit itself with being one of the best, if not the best, equipped Volunteer Corps in the United Kingdom.

* * *

The Regimental Dinner is to take place this year at the Hans Crescent Hotel, London, on Friday, 20th June, at 8 o'clock.

Sergeants' Mess News.

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May has been an exceedingly lively month in the Sergeants' Mess. The tennis courts are now in the very best of order, consequently the popularity of the game is increasing. The weekly tennis party has been re-instituted with much success judging from the large turn-out at such gatherings. Thursdays find us "At Home" to our friends from Hastings and other localities. Ping Pong is the latest amusement introduced to our mess-room as a means of killing dull time, and although it is now a little too hot for the amount of physical exercise required by the game, it will no doubt be more fully appreciated when the monsoon breaks and the weather becomes a shade cooler.

Quite the event of the month, as far as the Sergeants are concerned, was the return Cards, Billiard, and Tennis Tournament with the members of the Warrant and Non-commissioned officers' club. The honours of victory were with the visitors, the billiards and tennis falling to them and the cards to us. The evening of the tennis tournament concluded with a dance which, owing to unfavourable weather conditions, was held in the mess-room instead of the tennis courts as was at first intended. It was decidedly a successful affair in spite of the rain, the general enjoyment being added to by the dance programme being varied occasionally by a few songs, &c., from members and visitors present. Mrs. Marks played a few selections very tastefully on the piano and songs were sung by Master-Gunner O'Neil, who obliged with "Girlie" and other favourites. Another visitor in the person of Staff-Sergeant Bartrop responded to the request for a song, while Sergeant-Major Ditcham, Sergeant-Drummer Peggie, Sergeant Mathew and others also obliged the company. We are not, unfortunately, in possession of either a programme of the impromptu concert, or of the results of the various tournaments, so apologise in advance for any sins of omission or commission that may be observed. A word of praise is most certainly due to Color-Sergeant Smith and his working committee for the excellent catering arrangements, which really could hardly have been improved upon.

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Return Home of the Second Active Service Company, A. and S Highlanders.

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INTERESTING ACCOUNT OF CAMPAIGN.

At the reception of the Dumbarton members of the Second Service Company, Captain Cockburn, who was in command of the company in South Africa, gave an interesting account of the doings of the company at the front. He said the Second Service Company had gone through a considerable amount of hard work, and had seen a good deal of fighting during their sojourn in South Africa. This was not generally known, as the newspapers did not chronicle the doings of individual companies. He had, however, had the privilege of reading a brief diary of the work they had performed, and he thought the occasion appropriate for saying a few words on the subject. The various sections of the company assembled at Stirling on 8th February 1901. On 14th March they left for Southampton, there to embark on the *S.S. Ebro*, for the Cape. At the very outset they met with adventure, for at Peterborough Station their train ran into a goods train, derailing carriages and smashing footboards, windows, etc., but fortunately without injury to any of the company. The accident seemed to be an augury of what was to follow when they reached their destination. On April 11th they arrived at Cape Town, and on the following day were entrained for Pretoria. At Norvals Point, on the border of Orange River Colony, they had their legs stretched, they and some other Volunteer Service Companies being taken for a ten miles route march. On 17th April they met the First Service Company at Edenburg, and on the following day some other regimental friends in the persons of the 4th (Militia) Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who were stationed at Kronstad. Those members of the First Service Company now present would remember the meeting. After eight days' travelling they reached Pretoria, and were at once marched off to Quagga Camp, five miles out of the city. From thence they were shifted to Quagga Poort, a few miles off, where they underwent some practical training, the company going on out-posts duty for the first time. On May 3rd they settled down at Broukhurst Spruit for a spell of station duty, furnishing men for detached posts, line patrols, cattle guards, train escorts, erecting blockhouses, etc.; and they were not sorry when the order came for them to join their line Battalion, which formed part of the famous Benson's Column. From July 26th, when they went on trek, till October 18th, when they were given a rest, their life was one of ceaseless activity and adventure. Starting from Middlesburgh, which, they would remmber, was on the line from Pretoria to Delagoa Bay, they perambulated nearly the whole of the South-Eastern Transvaal, moving hither and thither, keeping their mobile enemy ever on the move. On August 5th they first came under fire. At that time the Volunteers, formed the rearguard of the column, and in the fight that ensued, twenty-nine prisoners were taken by them. That was at Mooi Valley. Few days after that passed without fighting. On August 7th the Volunteer out-posts were attacked. On the 11th the rearguard, in which were the Volunteers, was under fire from three sides, and although they were fortunate to escape without casualties, the Scottish Horse had three killed and three wounded. As showing the variety of work these comrades of theirs had to perform, he might mention that on August 15th, while at Carolina, the 1st D. R. V. section of the company were on the hill, at night as escort to the guns. Notwithstanding this, the following day they marched across country into Koomati Valley, a distance of twenty-four miles, with one rest, taking hills, streams, etc., as they came, and immediately went on out-post duty. He might mention that the result of the rapid movements of the column on that occasion resulted in the capture of De Beyer's laager, with a loss to the enemy of 24 prisoners, 1 killed, 2 wounded, 22 waggons, and numerous horses, cattle, and sheep. Not a bad bag for a day's drive, and a splendid reward for their great exertions. Passing over a series of minor adventures, the company on the 30th August performed a splendid feat of marching which, indeed, was their record. From Doornkop they marched 24 miles in 6½ hours! What did those he addressed think of that? But that was not all. They attacked a farm-house, finally charging with fixed bayonets, killing 3, wounding 4, and capturing 10 prisoners, 24 waggons, and 6 Cape carts, 400 horses, and 800 head of cattle. Their exertions did not end there. They had to march back nine miles to join the column which had followed them, and were under fire all the way. The whole march, exclusive of the fighting, was 33 miles, and occupied only 11 hours. That was splendid achievement, and showed what their men were capable of. He might mention that the farmhouse was near Bethel, where Colonel Benson, later on, was unfortunately killed. On September 18th the infantry of the column, including the Volunteers, marched 27 miles in 9½ hours to join the cavalry at Spean Kop. Coming up with the enemy—supposed to be Botha's rearguard—they captured 56 prisoners, 2,000 cattle, 24 waggons, and 30 Cape carts. On 13th October the company was given a rest, being sent on the lines of communication. Curiously, they went to Balmoral just at the First Service Company went to Edenburg (Edinburgh), both names suggestive of Scotland.

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Khaki Kilts.

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In connection with the recent consternation concerning the abolition of the kilt, the following letter from an old officer of the regiment appeared in the *St. James's Gazette* :—

Sir,—The mare's nest discovered by some Capetown journalists—sorely in want of "copy" no doubt—seems to be attracting the attention of people in this country also, and has been solemnly carried into the House of Commons! Will you, Sir, assist me to kick it to pieces by publishing this letter?

There is nothing in the new Army dress regulations to lead one to suppose that the kilt is to be abolished as a dress for active service. If the War Office official, who coached Mr. Brodrick for the replies to the questions he answered in the House last night, had understood what he was talking about, Mr. Brodrick would not have given such confusing and inaccurate answers about a "Khaki Kilt" (!), and the abolition of the tartan. Mr. Brodrick said amongst other things, "That instructions will be issued for providing a kilt of khaki or some invisible colour on active service as is now done in South Africa." It is not now, and never has been, done in South Africa.

What actually has been done—to which neither officers nor men have any objections—is to supply the Highland battalions there with a khaki apron, which conceals the tartan of the kilt when they are advancing, and no doubt such an apron will be served out in future with the active service kit, as it provides all that is required, where khaki is worn, to prevent that "sacrifice of life and peril to military success" which the *St. James's Gazette* seems to associate with the future appearance under fire of a Highland battalion in the "gaudy (?)

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colours" of its clan. It is no doubt very nice of the *St. James's Gazette* to be concerned about the loss of life in the field of future Highland brigades, but it may take an old soldier's word for it that khaki will never be seen in any European war any more than cavalry riding into action without their swords.

As one who took an active part in helping to send the "Fiery Cross" through Scotland, when a Liberal Government proposed to abolish the feather bonnet in 1884, and who acted as the military expert spokesman of a very influential deputation to the Secretary for War of the day, not only to urge the retention of the feather bonnet, but for a complete reform in the provision of clothing, etc., for Highland regiments at that time—representations which were entirely successful—I may assure Mr. Brodrick that if the War Office did attempt to abolish the tartan kilt on active service that department would court as nasty a fall as it sustained under Lord Hartington in 1884 on the occasion above alluded to, when her late Majesty Queen Victoria was on the side on the Highland regiments, as no Scotsman can doubt his present Gracious Majesty—Colonel-in-Chief of a Highland regiment—would be to-day.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL (late 93rd Highlanders).

[We are quite willing to take an old soldier's word for it "that khaki will never be seen in any European war," for we never suggested that it would. At the same time it is quite probable that no such conspicuous uniform as the tartan kilts of some of the Highland regiments will be seen on such service. The services rendered by our correspondent in procuring the retention of the feather bonnet in 1884 have not prevented his being misinformed on the present occasion, and if others interested in the matter had taken the same view that he does of the supposed "mare's nest," they would have found themselves occupying a fool's paradise instead—ED., *S. J. G.*]

The angry Editor's comment on the above letter reminds one of the legal proverb: "*When you have no case, abuse the Plaintiff's Attorney.*"—LT.-COL.

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Colonel Trotter's Successors at Stirling Castle.

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Colonel James Macleod Hunt, whose command of the 2nd Battalion of the Cameron Highlanders expired on Wednesday, succeeds Colonel Trotter in the command of the 91st (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) Regimental District. While virtually in command of the 2nd Battalion, the Commander-in-Chief on 1st March last appointed Colonel Hunt to General Sir George White's staff at Gibraltar, in the capacity of Officer Commanding the Infantry Brigade there, with the temporary rank of Brigadier-General, in succession to Major-General Sir H. E. Colville, K.C.M.G., C.B., placed on retired pay. Thus Colonel Hunt has continously been associated as a regimental officer with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders for 28 years, having been appointed to a Sub-Lieutenant's commission on 12th February 1873, in the 79th Cameron Highlanders, the regiment's official designation in those days. Leaving Edinburgh, Lieutenant Hunt served with his regiment at Fort-George and Glasgow, leaving the western city for embarkation at Greenock in June 1879, for Gibraltar. While stationed on the Rock, Lieutenant Hunt was promoted to a company command on 12th February 1881. The following year he, along with his regiment, took part in the Egyptian campaign. The battle of Tel-el-Kebir gave to Captain Hunt the opportunity of displaying his abilities as a leader. So conspicuously did he carry out the work entrusted to him that, on the recommendation of Major-General Sir A. Alison, who commanded the Highland Brigade, he was promoted to a brevet majority, while the Sultan conferred on him the Order of the Medjidie. On the 18th November 1884 the Cameron Highlanders left Cairo to join the Nile Expedition. Promotion to substantive rank of major came on December 1st, 1886. His Egyptian war medal bears clasps for Tel-el-Kebir and the Nile, and at the hands of the Khedive he was decorated with the bronze star which bears His Highness's name. Major Hunt accompanied the 79th to Malta, and while the 1st Battalion was stationed in Gibraltar he was ordered home to Fort-George in 1897, on promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel to command the 2nd Battalion, its formation taking effect from the 1st of April that year. Before leaving Fort-George in September 1899 Colonel Hunt, by Royal command, took the 2nd Battalion to Balmoral to receive from the hands of Queen Victoria its first set of colours. On 3rd April last year, when Colonel Hunt was given one year's extension of his command, he was at the same time promoted to a brevet colonelcy in the army. Colonel Hunt is the eldest son of the late Mr. Jas. Alexander Hunt of Pittencrieff and Logie, Fifeshire, his mother being a daughter of Mr. Alex. Gibson Maitland, Advocate. The Colonel succeeded to the family estates on the 10th October 1890. His appointment at Stirling Castle is for five years.—*Stirling Sentinel.*

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The Highland Minister's Lecture to the Tourists.

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It was wis feelin's of delight that her nainsel wass notice sae mony Sassenachs here this day—aal assemblit together ass one person, tae hear ta Word bein' spoke. It fills her nainsel wiss delight tae think tat she may be ta means of puttin some sense intae ta empty-heidit numskulls belangin' tae ta puir miserable place ca't Englant, what hae tis day had tae sense ta come intae her nainsel's kirk. It wass no tae be expecit at ta puir fules wha hae come here this blessit day coot effer hear ta Word bein' spoke in their ain kirks by a puir fule o' a Sassenach minister like themsels.

An' it fills her nainsel wi' pride tae think that she'll hae this gran' opportunity o' makin' wise the puir' daft buddies wha hae this day been led intae her nainsel's kirk. It makes her nainsel prood tae think that the puir, fashionless craters wha are before her this day will be able tae leave this buildin' wiss more sense than they had before they wass as wise as they are the noo.

Ant, moreover, her nainsel canna but feel gratefu' for bein' ta michty instrument chosen ta impart ta wisdom tae the puir wanert bits o' bein's wha hae stravaiged intae this holy hoose. It wass no of'en that ta puir, fullish sowls has ta sense tae come intae a Heilan' kirk; but efter ta soond sense that they will hear this day her nainsel thinks they will be fin'in' their road tae oor kirk af'ener. It wass weel kent among oorsels that ta puir, silly English ministers canna preach ass they ocht, and it wass wis profound thankfu'ness that her nainsel wass observe sae mony o' ta puir, neglekit Sassenachs sittin' in ta back seats behint us a' in oor midst.

It will be a ralp pleeshir tae ta silly craters tae tell their puir freens across ta Border apoot ta gran' eloquence they heard in oor kirk this Sabbath, ant' though her nainsel iss not paid for talkin' tae ta bits o' helpless buddies, yet, for peety's sake, she canna help frae instillin' knowledge intae their empty heids.

Her nainsel hopes she'll no hae spoken in vain, but that the tree she has this day plantit in ta silly brains o' ta Sassenachs may bear fruit, ant spring up a gran' man! Wiss these few remarks ta collection will noo tak' place.

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Athletics.

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Football.

There have been so many vacancies in the Regimental Team caused chiefly by the departure of the South African Draft, that those whose rôle it is to select the team have not been able as yet to rest on their oars, nor will they for some time, for there is nothing more harassing than the responsibility attendant on work of this description. However, without entering into details an unprofessional opinion might fairly congratulate all concerned both on their selection and on their performances in the field. We have played this month six matches and secured three victories, while two were lost and one drawn. The sporting instincts of Calcutta residents have been marked by a crowed two or three deep round the ground on the occasions of these League Matches, and on the whole we are fortunate in finding ourselves in a cantonment where there is so much evidence of that enthusiasm over games which helps us to bear the hardships of service.

The *maidan* is covered with perfect grounds, and judging from the challenges we have received there must be quite a hundred clubs, of sorts. Some of these have altered the rules of the Association to a certain extent, in that they refuse to play with boots, or to play any team using such dangerous articles.

At present we have not entered for the bootless league, but there is a report that a team went out to practice the other evening and returned after ten minutes with three toes broken and five dislocated, so it is doubtful if they will mend in time for the competition. As already mentioned, there have been great many changes in the battalion team since we entered for the League, and in most cases they seem to be changes for the better. As there was a certain amount of discussion about who should represent the Regiment, it was thought advisable to start a committee. This committee consists of two men chosen by each company, who arrange the team as they think fit.

We are now well into the League as will be seen on another page. At present we hold a very good position especially when one considers the misfortune and bad luck we have had. For instance, against the Howrah the referee was a member of the Howrah Club, which was rather obvious during the game, and why the protest, which we lodged, was given in our favour is a mystery. Again, after playing a hard game against the Rangers and obtaining three goals to nil, it does seem rather hard to have to play the whole game again because a storm interrupts the match five minutes before time.

But our luck must change soon, and it seems now as if it is on the turn. The team have really got together and are training hard. The shooting, which is our weak point, is improving, although there is still room for more. Every match shows signs of improvement, and if the team continue to train as they are now doing, and do not patronize the canteen too often, we shall soon place a really strong eleven in the field.

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Hockey.

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The Inter-Company Challenge Cup, which, as we noted in our last number, is being presented to the regiment by our attached officers, has been the talk of the month, and we are sorry that some of the donors were not here to appreciate the keenness with which the matter was discussed by the various teams. Although in its infancy as a much patronized regimental game there are of course few who are unacquainted with the principles of hockey, and yet a too frequent free hit as a result of 'sticks' or 'kick' proves that in the heat of the game it is difficult to think of all the rules at once, but such accidents are, of course, invariably ascribed to our inborn familiarity with shinty and not to any wish to violate the laws of hockey.

In the first round B beat A, G beat C, F beat D, and E beat H. In the second B beat G and E beat F, which left B and E companies alone to decide who was to perform the ceremony of the initiation of the cup among the trophies of the regiments' an honour which fell to the former. An account of the final tie will, we hope, find a place among the sporting columns of our July number, but we are sure every one of our readers will join in congratulating the winners on their success, for they are certainly the pioneers of the game, though we will not all go so far as to say that we hope they may have a continuation of it in the future.

The cup which is a very handsome silver one in the shape of an old vase and bears the inscription, presented by Lieuts. S. Hutcheson, C. B. Hamilton, G. S. Douglas; 2nd Lieuts. K. Henderson, J. A. Muirhead, H. Shakespear, T. Wilson, A. Adams, and R. Foster.

It should prove a suitable incentive to the increase of the popularity of hockey and will certainly be keenly contested for among the companies.

* * *

As a match, characteristic of Regimental Hockey, no better illustration can be had than the game played between "E" and "H" companies in the League. From start even to finish the dash and spirit of the rivals were sustained, and this is a point which will be lost

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on the unfortunate who are not players themselves; and the incidents occurring through the over-zeal of some individuals for distinction would have been, on a less serious occasion than a match in the Inter-Company Hockey League, a source of infinite amusement. The knowledge of the rules regulating the use of the stick and of the hands and feet on the part of some of the players seemed slightly limited. Such mishaps, however, can be excused, as yet we must remember when judging, that the game is only in its infancy in the regiment.

If space would allow advantage would be taken of this opportunity to commit to fame, as examples to those who are to come after, the names of some two or three courageous ones who, not the least abashed by the watchful eye of the Umpire or the sometimes-pointed remarks and advice from the critical unlookers, deliberately, as it seemed, but unintentionally, as we know, gave a sly kick in the middle of the 'scrum' or otherwise committed flagrant breaches of the rules of procedure.

An innocent enough piece of "lakri" seems this same hockey stick, but placed in the hands of the reckless, and manipulated with feeling on a ground where are exposed forty and four of shin bone, and they are at once transformed into weapons almost as dangerous as the battle-axe of Robert the Bruce. Luck to the novice amongst such a war of blows for scatheless he need not hope to come out of a melée in which swing two and twenty hockey sticks.

However, in the chaos that as yet prevails in the Hockey world there are elements which foretell of an order and a game yet to be played in the regiment, and the Company League is the very thing we want to promote this, while the friendly rivalry thus created gives just the right amount of spice to ensure the popularity of the game.

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Calcutta Football League.

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Ninety-Third vs. *79th R. G. A.*—*Played on 17th May.*—This match opened the league competition and was played on our own ground. Taken altogether the game was a very tame one and the result created a very unsatisfactory feeling that the personnel of the team required much changing. The call of time found the scores standing *Ninety-Third*, 2 *goals*; *79th Coy., R. G. A.*, 1.

Ninety-Third vs. *Howrah*—*Played on 20th May.*—The team journeyed to Howrah but failed to bring back the necessary points. The composition of our representatives was somewhat similar to that which played the Fort Gunners, and although they had cruel luck in losing the game, still a few changes would probably have been beneficial in view of some of the team's performances in the previous match. Hogg scored a goal in the second half of the match which was disallowed, although to the spectators it seemed that the ball was certainly through the posts before it was cleared by the goal-keeper. On opening and throughout the game our team had decidedly the best of the play, and it was not long before Henry beat the Howrah custodian by a good shot. Shortly after this a clearly offside goal was scored by Howrah and allowed by the referee. The result at half time was one all. On resuming, Hogg, as above described, scored what should have been the second point, and Howrah soon after got the lead which they maintained until the end. A protest was lodged at the conclusion of the match on the ground that the referee was a playing member of the Howrah team, a fact which was not known until the end of the game. *Result—Howrah*, 2 *goals*; *Ninety-Third*, 1.

Ninety-Third vs. *Barrackpur R. A.*—*Played on 22nd May.*—In consequence of the defeat by Howrah in the previous match a great many changes were made in the team and the result certainly proved satisfactory though we question the wisdom of one or two of the removals. Still one must'nt grumble so long as everything is done for the best. The Barrackpur men were only dangerous on one occasion and so the game scarcely merits a flowing description. It was simply a walk-over and the result justified the committee who selected the team in congratulating themselves on the success of their efforts. We can scarcely close without mentioning the brilliant display made by Hogg, who certainly was the most prominent man on the field. *Result—Ninety-Third*, 4 *goals*; *Barrackpur R. A.*, 0.

Ninety-Third vs. *K. O. S. Borderers.*—*Played on 24th May.*—This match naturally caused much interest, especially as on the last occasion, on which the two teams met, the K. O. S. Borderers were the winners by one goal to love. That was three years ago, and the match was a very stiff one in the contest for the Murray Cup.

Since the commencement of the league the S. B's have borne an unbeaten record, and naturally enough shared largely the support of our civilian neighbours. Both regiments were well represented, and the crowd at the commencement of the game numbered close on 8,000. Immediately the whistle sounded, the 93rd made a dash on their opponents' goal, but were repulsed by the backs of the S. B's, who showed early to advantage. After about fifteen minutes of give and take play, Cruickshanks, of the King's Own, notched the first point of the game from a scrimmage in front of goal. This had the effect of putting the 93rd on their mettle, and about five minutes after this Hogg on the left put a shot across the goal-mouth, which Houston had a very easy matter in netting. At half time the teams stood level, one goal each.

On resuming play the Borderers had an early look in, which Coventry just managed to clear. Shortly afterwards the S. B's were granted a penalty, the ball was kicked and saved miraculously by Coventry, but to the astonishment of every one the referee ordered the ball to be kicked again, and again our worthy goal-keeper saved amidst tremendous cheering.

During the last ten minutes our team played well and really deserved to win. No more scoring taking place, the game ended a draw, 1 goal each.

Ninety-Third vs. *Dalhousie.*—*Played on 28th May.*—The Dalhousie appeared about twenty minutes late and deficient of two of their players. It was early seen by our team that they had an "easy affair" and so they avoided scoring until their opponents were at full strength.

The 93rd from the kick-off collared and kept the ball pretty much to themselves for the first five or ten minutes. The Dalhousie's absentees then appeared, and consequently a little more interest was added to the game. Our team soon afterwards scored two goals in quick succession, but they were disallowed as offside. Lieutenant Forbes and McKenzie had now a run which resulted in the first-named player putting on the first goal of the game. This was speedily followed by Cairns and McKenzie notching a goal each. At this juncture it should be mentioned that Hogg on the

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outside left was the means of our scoring the next three goals, his shots across the goal mouth only needed touching by some one near the goal to make them tell. This was done admirably by McKenzie who played well up to form. *Result—Ninety-Third, 6 goals; Dalhousie, 0.*

Ninety-Third vs. *Calcutta.—Played on 31st May.*—The fixture with the premier local club was played on their ground before a very large turn-out of spectators, the majority of whom naturally enough favoured the local representatives; so much so in fact that the next time we play them it will have to be with padded ears. "Play up Calcutta" was shouted from thousands of lungs and to do them credit they did play up, beating us by three goals to two.

Calcutta won the toss and chose to defend the Fort goal. From the very start "Calcutta" showed good speed and Sherman had a try for goal which just missed the cross bar. Our team now settled down and showed to advantage, first Houston and then Lieutenant Forbes had a try for goal, but nothing came from them.

Give and take play now followed until McGowan at half-back placed well into goal, which Cairns netted very neatly. Then McKenzie, who was playing a good game, had hard lines with a drop kick in front of goal. Calcutta had now a look in and were granted a very doubtful penalty, which resulted in their equalizing. The game now standing level, proved very fast, and it was next to certain that the best staying team would win. Half time ended with the score one goal each. From the re start Calcutta kept the play pretty much to themselves for a time, and Sherman, who was playing a magnificent game, had a try for goal, which put his team one to the good. Within three minutes from this our team equalized, Auchinvole at half doing the trick. Give and take play now ensued our team looking a bit fagged with the exception of one or two. Calcutta were a bit lucky at the close of the game to score the winning points, but taking everything into consideration they were the best trained men and ought to give a still better account of themselves in the remainder of their league fixtures.

On our side McKenzie, McGowan, Scott and Lt. Forbes played well. *Result—Calcutta, 3 goals; Ninety-Third, 2.*

The following are the names of the team:—

Coventry.

Wallace. Scett.
Auchinvole. McGowan. Mnlholland.
Lt. Forbes. McKenzie. Montgomery. Cairns. Hogg.

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A drouthy son of Crispin, in Edinburgh, had on one occasion (a Saturday evening) imbibed too much of his favourite beverage. Awakening next morning with an insatiable thirst, and having omitted to provide himself with a "cure," he resolved on applying at an apothecary's close at hand for something to quench it. The druggist, happening to be possessed of a wee drop of the "barley-bree," after carefully metamorphosing a glassful, gave it to him, which the cobbler drank, and, after having made payment, left the shop. Feeling the craving return shortly afterwards, he hastened back and asked for another. On the shopman enquiring if he felt any better after the last, he said, "Ou ay; but what do ye ca' the stuff?" "We generally call it aquafortis," answered the druggist. "I say, man," returned he, "could ye no mak' this yin aky fifties, for the last was hardly strong enough."

Card Competition.

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An interesting "Chirby" competition took place recently in which a large number of the Band, Drummers, and Pipers participated. All the games were well contested and partners were drawn for after every round. The competition resulted as follows:—

First Round.

Bandsman Chidley Piper Maclachlan	beat	Bandsman Hayward. „ Lillywhite.
Bandsman Wilson „ Green	„	„ Fraser. „ Yeo.
Drummer Cridland Piper Finlayson	„	Drummer Muchan. „ Seton.
Bandsman Morrison Piper Macmillan	„	Lce.-Cpl. Bracey. Drummer Ferguson.
Drummer Coutts Bandsman Auchinvole	„	Drummer Adams. Corporal Willcocks.
Corporal Duff Bandsman Hollands	„	Piper Nicholson. Drummer Stevens.

Byes—Corporal Maclachlan and Bandsman Deloughrey.

Second Round.

Bandsman Auchinvole „ Chidley	beat	Piper Macmillan. Drummer Cridland.
Drummer Coutts Piper Finlayson	„	Bandsman Green. „ Hollands.
Corporal Maclachlan Piper Maclachlan	„	Corporal Willcocks. Bandsman Deloughrey.

Byes—Corporal Duff and Bandsman Morrison.

Semi-Final.

Bandsman Chidley Pipper Finlayson	beat	Bandsman Morrison. Corporal Maclachlan.
Bandsman Auchinvole Drummer Coutts	„	Corporal Duff. Piper Maclachlan.

Final.

Piper Finlayson Drummer Coutts	beat	Bandsman Chidley. „ Auchinvole.

PIZEN.

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What the Parrot is Saying.

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[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

WHAT its Punkah-wallah—Punk.

That he kent there wis a storm coming.

That this is the hottest *twelve-months* we hae had this year.

That they were tae fire ten minutes per round every second and then fire fifteen magazines.

That he got his name changed to Daisy.

That the iced lemon at the dance wis awu guid.

That he dresses the rear rank o' the hockey team.

That he wis suffering frae nervous debility.

That Carnegie is back tae the mint.

That hae ye bocht a byke yet?

That if it wisna for sae mony moochers a stick o' bacca would dae a month this week.

That the "South African Heroes" are a fine weel set up body o' men.

That it kens a few auld faces.

That "Have you forgotten" is the latest military song.

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That we could dae wi' that rise o' pay.
That its lang, lang o' coming.
That it killed twa stanes wi' the yae bird.
That the guard would turn out to His Excellency the Commanding Officer.
That its cousin at Jalapahar is apparently indisposed this month.

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Breezes from Jalapahar.

—o—

Draftie proceeding to the cookhouse, football in hand.—Hi Bob, gie us a rub o' your bellows tae blaw up the baw.

Another Draftie asked a certain piper for a *chumage* (meaning a spoon) and our brave piper, whose knowledge of the *bat* was extremely limited, handed him an onion.

Hearing some men talking about curious things happening on guard a certain draftie said he once saw a man dressing for guard put his spats on the wrong feet, and his legs on inside out, and go on guardmounting parade and pass without being checked.—Shades of Munchausen and other pevaricators please note.

An *old soldier*, talking of the last draft from Home, said that "H" Company only got one man of the draft and he was a *boy*.

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Schoolboy "Facts."

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The historical and other "facts" given here are taken from schoolboys' examination papers, says the *University Correspondent*:—

Of whom was it said "He never smiled again"?—William Rufus did this after he was shot by the arrow.

My favourite character in English history is Henry VIII., because he had eight wives and killed them all.

The cause of the Peasant's Revolt was that a shilling poultice should be put on everybody over sixteen,

Henry VIII. was a very good king. He liked plenty of money, he had plenty of wives, and died of ulcers in the legs.

Edward III. would have been king of France, if his mother had been a man.

Doomsday book—A book signifying that each man should have seven feet of land for a grave.

Alexander the Great was born in the absence of his parents.

What followed the murder of the Becket?—Henry II. received wracks with a birch.

What is a watershed?—A shed for keeping water in.

A watershed is a house between two rivers so that a drop of water falling on one side of the roof runs into one river, and a drop on the other side goes into the other river.

Scutage was a way the Anglo-Saxons had of ploughing the ground.

The battle of Waterloo was fought off Cape Trafalgar. Nelson led up one squadron and Collingwood the other. When it was over, Wellington rode over the field by moonlight, and met Blucher, the French general, and they shook hands and were friends ever after.

The Feudal System lies between the Humber and the Thames.

Caractacus was a Roman emperor who had conquered Britain. He had to abandon it shortly afterwards because it was overrun by Picts and the Scots.

The principal products of Kent are Archbishops at Canterbury.

The chief clause in Magna Charta was that no free man should be put to death or imprisoned without his own consent.

Domestic Occurrences.

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BIRTHS.

GRAHAM.—At Darjeeling, on the 24th May 1902, the wife of Captain R. B. Graham, of a son—Donald Robert.

BARRETT.—At Colaba, on the 23rd May 1902, the wife of Sergeant J. R. Barrett, late "G" Company, of a son.

DEATHS.

DALE.—At the Station Hospital, Calcutta, on the 3rd May 1902, the result of an accident, No. 5136, Lance-Corporal T. Dale, "C" Company.

HILL.—At 15, Kilnside Road, Paisley, on the 26th April 1902, John Hill, Shoemaker (late 93rd Sutherland Highlanders), aged 64.

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Ninety-third Calendar for July 1902.

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1	Tu.	Marched Varna to Aladyn, '54; suffered severely from cholera, fever and dysentery. Territorial scheme introduced, 93rd became 2nd Sutherland and Argyll Highlanders, 1881. Regimental Games, 1900 (1st day).
2	W.	
3	Th.	
4	F.	
5	S.	
6	S.	
7	M.	Outbreak of cholera at Peshawar, 1863; ninety-three deaths.
8	Tu.	
9	W.	Crossed frontier into Waziristan, 1897; very trying march, resulting in two deaths and many cases of sunstroke.
10	Th.	
11	F.	
12	S.	
13	S.	
14	M.	Arrived Datta Khel, joining 1st Brigade, Tochi Field Force, 1897.
15	Tu.	Chatham to Windsor, thence to Devenport, 1853. Landed Portsmouth from Crimea, 1856, to Aldershot.
16	W.	Reviewed at Aldershot by H. M. Queen Victoria, 1856.
17	Th.	Montreal to Quebec, 1846, Glengary Bonnets with dice ordered to be worn. Horse Guard's order, 1851.
18	F.	Lines of Regiment visited by Queen Victoria and Princess Royal, 1856.
19	S.	Establishment (Service Coys.) raised to 53 Sgts., 20 Drs., 1,000 R. and F., 1854.
20	S.	Advance of 1st Brigade, Tochi Field Force on Sharanni, 1897.
21	M.	
22	Tu.	Reconnaissance of Maizar Kots, 1897. Lieut.-Col. G. L. J. Goff relinquished command of 2nd Battalion, 1899, to 1st Battalion. Lieut.-Col. J. H. Campbell assumed command, 1899.
23	W.	Arrived Dover from Aldershot, 1856. Piper's doubtlets changed from red to green. Lieut.-Col. W. S. Mills relinquished command, 1890.
24	Th.	Col. P. D. Trotter assumed command, 1890. Col. Trotter relinquished command 1894. Lieut.-Col. J. D. Fetherstonhaugh relinquished command, 1898.
25	F.	Lt.-Col. Fetherstonhaugh assumed command, 1894. Lieut.-Col. G. L. J. Goff assumed command, 1898.

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26 S. Second outbreak of cholera, 1862. Advance of 1st Brigade, Tochi Field Force, on Maizar, 1897; destruction of Kots commenced.
27 S. Lieut.-Col. MacGregor to half-pay, 1838; Robert Spark, Lieut.-Col.
28 M.
29 Tu. Inspection at Canterbury, and Colours presented by D. of Wellington, C.-in-C., 1834. "C" Company won Cricket Shield, 1901.
30 W.
31 Th. Horse Guard's Circular ordering Sergeants to carry fusils instead of pikes, 1830. Gold substituted for silver lace, 1830. White clothing for Regimental Bands, 1830.

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Obituary.

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We regret to have to chronicle the deaths of a few more crimean, mutiny and other veterans of the Regiment this month. The cuttings are from the *Rothesay Express* and various other Scottish papers:—

Daniel Bannatyne Duncan.—On Saturday the grave was closed over the mortal remains of a local veteran who bravely fought in his country's battles at a time when soldiering entailed even more hardship and endurance than modern warfare with all its difficulties and privations. Daniel Bannatyne Duncan, who died on Thursday last in his house in Watergate, enlisted in the early fifties in the 79th Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, and, at the outbreak of the Crimean war, he was transferred into the 93rd, and formed one of the historic "Thin Red Line" at Balaclava. His name also appears in the records of that famous regiment as one of those who gallantly volunteered to enter the Redan. When applying for an increase of pension six years ago, Duncan received a very kindly letter from Major-General Sir J. A. Ewart, K.C.B., who was captain of his company, stating that he remembered well the night when he, along with other nine comrades from the regiment, volunteered to enter the Redan. In a subsequent letter, dated 19th February 1896, intimating an increase of his pension from 8*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.* per day, General Ewart said—"I was present when you so pluckily volunteered and so could testify to your gallant conduct." After serving through the whole of the Crimean campaign, Duncan went to India with his regiment and took part in various severe engagements, including the attack on Secundrabagh and the relief of Lucknow. At the latter General Ewart—then a Lieut.-Colonel—was himself severely wounded, but killed eight men with his own hand in the encounter and captured one of the enemy's colours. Duncan afterwards went through the North-West Frontier campaign, and all through was fortunate enough to escape any wounds, although on one occasion the barrel of his rifle was struck by a bullet. He gained four medals with bars for various engagements. On his return from India he rejoined his first regiment, the 79th, and was discharged after serving 21 years.

Mr. Lockhart, a local retired postman, served in the 93rd in India along with the deceased.

The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon, and was attended by 1 Coy., 1st V. B. A. & S. H., under Major Buchanan. The coffin, wrapped in the Union Jack, was carried by four men of the company from the house to the hearse. The Volunteers, along with the pipers playing funeral airs, led the cortege, and there was a good attendance of the general public following. At the grave the Rev. Mr. Mechie conducted a brief service. —*Rothesay Express.*

Alexander M'Lennan.—The interment took place yesterday, in Nairn Cemetery, of Alexander M'Lennan, piper at the relief of Lucknow. Deceased enlisted at Dundee in the 93rd and served through the Indian Mutiny, under Sir Colin Campbell, where he was wounded in the leg, at Cavalry Barracks, Lucknow. He was transferred to the 41st Foot, but again retransferred to the 93rd. He was invalided home before his 21 years' service was completed, and was discharged at Aberdeen. He received the Mutiny and good conduct medals, also three clasps.

Sergeant Cowie.—Another Crimean veteran in the person of Sergeant Cowie has passed away at the village of Lumsden, Aberdeenshire. Deceased was present at the battles of Alma and Balaclava, was one of the famous "Thin Red Line," and was engaged in the operations during the siege of Sabastopol.

Harry Fife.—There has just died at Thurso, in the person of Harry Fife, pensioner, one of the few remaining Crimean veterans. Harry, at the age of 17, enlisted in the 93rd Highlanders, but on reaching Edinburgh was rejected, when he then joined the Marines, in which he served for 22 years, with one slight mark against him. In the Crimea he took part in many of its historic incidents, being one of the men landed with the Lancaster gun from the fleet which played so important a part at the battle of Inkerman.

Sergt.-Instr. Andrew Baird.—The death took place suddenly on Wednesday afternoon of Sergeant-Instructor Andrew Baird, Cathcart. He was for some years in the Gordon Highlanders and afterwards joined the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, and was with them on foreign service. He also served on the Permanent Staff of the 4th Battalion, A. & S. Highlanders.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACT FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE," DATED LONDON, 8TH APRIL 1902.

Royal West Kent Regiment.—2nd Lieutenant K. D. M. Henderson (attached to 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders), to be Lieutenant.

PROMOTIONS.

To be First Class Sergeant-Instructor in the Madras Guards.—No. 8218, Sergeant W. Charles, Unattached List, dated 29th April 1902.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Officiating Sergeant-Instructor, Eastern Bengal Volunteer Rifles.—No. 4526, Sergeant W. G. Watt, "C" Company, dated 7th May 1902.

To be Provisional Lance-Sergeant.—No. 6145, Corporal A. Macdonald, "B" Company, dated 7th May 1902.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporal.—No. 4094, Private C. Mitchell, "F" Company, dated 28th May 1902.

To be Piper.—No. 3631, Private J. G. McKenzie, "D" Company, dated 12th April 1902.

To be Acting Pipers.—No. 7996, Private D. McDougall,

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"B" Company, No. 7868, Private T. Stewart, "D" Company, dated 14th May 1902.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 2d. per diem :—

"A" Company.
No. 5760, Private W. Riddoch.

"C" Company.
No. 3876, Private J. M. Brown.

"D" Company.
No. 5758, Bandsman E. S. Parry.

"F" Company.
No. 5769, Pte. W. Collins. | No. 5770, Pte. J. Cullen.

"G" Company.
No. 5690, Private P. Brisland.

"H" Company.
No. 4761, Private A. Bowe.

At 1d. per diem :—

"C" Company.
No. 7522, Private W. Clark.

"E" Company.
No. 6479, Private A. McFarlane.

"G" Company.
No. 5387, Private R. Munro.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted a Supply Certificate, dated 4th November 1901.
No. 5944, Private D. Halley, "H" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service :—

No. 8221,	Sergeant	S.	Simpson,	Unattached List.
,, 4773,	Corporal	A.	Wilson,	"C" Company.
,, 4293,	,,	D. G.	Newall,	"D" ,,
,, 3849,	,,	J.	Duff,	"F" ,,
,, 3839,	Lce.-Cpl.	W.	Campbell,	"B" ,,
,, 2930,	Private	W.	McMaster,	"A" ,,
,, 3864,	Bandsman	A.	Johnson,	"B" ,,

To complete twelve years' service with the colours :—
No. 3631, Piper J. G. McKenzie, "C" Company.

COMPANY TRANSFER.

No. 3631, Piper J. G. McKenzie, "D" to "C" Company.

DRAFT FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

The undermentioned non-commissioned officers and men—a draft from South Africa—are taken on the strength and posted to Companies as under :—

No. 2543,	Sergt.	D. Chisholm	to	"A"	Company.
,, 5984,	,,	J. Brash	,,	"C"	,,
,, 5772,	,,	R. White	,,	"F"	,,
,, 4082,	,,	J. Edgar	,,	"H"	,,
,, 5927,	Lce.-Sergt.	D. Stobie	,,	"H"	,,
,, 6325,	,,	R. Fraser	,,	"D"	,,
,, 7480,	,,	A. Cooper	,,	"B"	,,
,, 6396,	,,	G. Dougall	,,	"G"	,,
,, 6569,	,,	D. McCallum	,,	"A"	,,
,, 6842,	,,	J. Mackay	,,	"H"	,,

"A" Company.

No. 5930,	Pte.	R. Farrell.	No. 6306,	Pte.	J. Murray.
,, 6564,	,,	J. Jamieson.	,, 6486,	,,	F. Noble.
,, 7379,	,,	J. Lockhart.	,, 4867,	,,	J. Quigley.
,, 6138,	,,	J. McBride.	,, 6942,	,,	J. Quinn.
,, 6577,	,,	R. Martin.	,, 7203,	,,	J. Robertson.
,, 6537,	,,	J. Miller.	,, 6665,	,,	A. Smth.

No. 6914, Private R. Steadman.

"B" Company.

No. 6983,	Pte.	J. Cameron.	No. 6958,	Pte.	A. Leitch.
,, 7192,	,,	G. Campbell.	,, 7191,	,,	J. McKenzie.
,, 7147,	,,	J. Christison.	,, 6573,	,,	K. McLeod.
,, 6388,	,,	R. Donachie.	,, 6543,	,,	J. Murray.
,, 6634,	,,	J. Faichney.	,, 6455,	,,	G. Pressley.
,, 6481,	,,	C. Gallacher.	,, 6553,	,,	A. Rankin.
,, 6915,	,,	J. Gowans.	,, 6984,	,,	A. Roy.
,, 7453,	,,	C. Halliday.	,, 6684,	,,	J. Smith.
,, 7457,	,,	J. Hudson.	,, 7194,	,,	A. Smith.
,, 6981,	,,	N. Johnstone.	,, 6764,	,,	J. Stewart.
,, 7200,	,,	D. Johnstone.	,, 7394,	,,	J. Vallely.
,, 6362,	,,	J. Kelly.	,, 7069,	,,	J. Walsh.

"C" Company.

No. 6647,	Pte.	G. Adams.	No. 6524,	Pte.	A. McCaskell.
,, 6502,	,,	J. Burry.	,, 6523,	,,	T. McDermott.
,, 6480,	,,	J. Campbell.	,, 6547,	,,	J. MacDonald.
,, 6828,	,,	R. Carlyle.	,, 7061,	,,	J. McIlwen.
,, 3987,	,,	J. Currie.	,, 7169,	,,	A. McKinnon.
,, 7452,	,,	T. Douglas.	,, 6533,	,,	A. Mathieson.
,, 7226,	,,	J. Downs.	,, 6330,	,,	R. Pryde.
,, 7190,	,,	J. Findlay.	,, 7656,	,,	J. Scott.
,, 6458,	,,	G. Hamilton.	,, 6666,	,,	D. Shields.
,, 6381,	,,	W. Hewitt.	,, 6671,	,,	A. Smart.
,, 7063,	,,	J. Linton.	,, 6555,	,,	J. Smith.
,, 6741,	,,	F. McCabe.	,, 6489,	,,	J. Young.

"D" Company.

No. 6603,	Pte.	F. Falconar.	No. 7382,	Pte.	J. McWilliams.
,, 6519,	,,	W. Feeney.	,, 7432,	,,	A. Miller.
,, 6420,	,,	F. Foster.	,, 6570,	,,	J. Mossman.
,, 7648,	,,	J. Gardiner.	,, 4482,	,,	J. Mowatt.
,, 7013,	,,	J. Griffith.	,, 6412,	,,	J. Murphy.
,, 6463,	,,	J. McKenna.	,, 7021,	,,	J. Wardrope.

No. 6413, Private R. Watson.

"E" Company.

No. 6009,	Pte.	D. Birrell.	No. 7037,	Pte.	W. Elliott.
,, 6337,	,,	J. Brown.	,, 6626,	,,	J. Haig.
,, 7434,	,,	F. Buntor.	,, 6398,	,,	J. Kennedy.
,, 6437,	,,	W. Capie.	,, 6449,	,,	J. Kidd.
,, 6522,	,,	P. Cassidy.	,, 6540,	,,	J. McKenzie.
,, 6484,	,,	J. Cowan.	,, 6906,	,,	D. Oribine.
,, 6152,	,,	J. Docherty.	,, 6460,	,,	J. Riggans.
,, 6539,	,,	W. Dunlop.	,, 6541,	,,	T. Scrymgeour.
,, 6963,	,,	J. Dunsmore.	,, 6635,	,,	D. Stevenson.

No. 6444, Private J. Young.

"F" Company.

No. 6722,	Pte.	J. Brown.	No. 6441,	Pte.	T. Green.
,, 6419,	,,	A. Caskie.	,, 6629,	,,	J. Griffin.
,, 6696,	,,	T. Chapman.	,, 6422,	,,	A. King.
,, 6576,	,,	J. Chalmers.	,, 6681,	,,	J. McCoukie.
,, 7593,	,,	H. Curran.	,, 7292,	,,	J. McDonald.
,, 7423,	,,	J. Cowan.	,, 6637,	,,	D. Morgan.
,, 6881,	,,	D. Fraser.	,, 6930,	,,	R. Paterson.

No. 6884, Private P. Thomson.

"G" Company.

No. 6877,	Pte.	R. Calderwood.	No. 6326,	Pte.	J. Manson.
,, 6515,	,,	J. Connacher.	,, 7117,	,,	C. Mulholland.
,, 7080,	,,	D. Gow.	,, 6485,	,,	M. Nicholson.
,, 6347,	,,	J. Lees.	,, 6505,	,,	P. Williamson.
,, 6457,	,,	R. McCallum.	,, 6746,	,,	J. Wright.

No. 7557, Private J. Stead.

"H" Company.

No. 6405,	Pte.	J. Arthur.	No. 6358,	Pte.	W. Morgan.
,, 7567,	,,	R. Dicker.	,, 6313,	,,	W. Rarity.
,, 6339,	,,	W. Dickson.	,, 6287,	,,	H. Reeves.
,, 6667,	,,	C. Gray.	,, 6545,	,,	J. Ross.
,, 6755,	,,	R. Jolly.	,, 6856,	,,	H. Thorpe.
,, 6799,	,,	J. Kelly.	,, 6723,	,,	J. Waddell.
,, 7339,	,,	F. McAdams.	,, 7487,	,,	J. Walker.
,, 7043,	,,	J. McLuskey.	,, 7619,	,,	D. Watt.
,, 6677,	,,	C. McPherson.	,, 5467,	,,	T. Woods.

—: o :—

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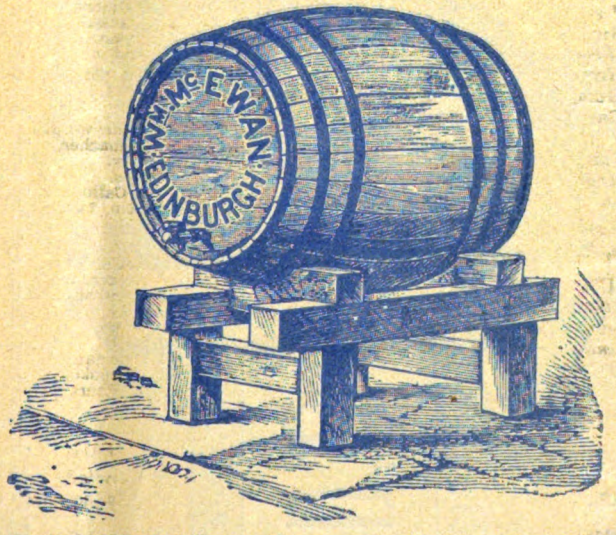

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JULY 1902.

The Thin Red Line.

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Vol. VII,

THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 3—Vol. VIII.] CALCUTTA—JULY 1902. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

It was with the deepest anxiety and consternation that the news of the King's sudden illness was received on the 25th June. The good reports of the results of a very serious operation were gladly received, and anxiety was considerably relieved by the news of his subsequent rapid recovery from so serious a condition. Intercessory services for the life of His Imperial Majesty took the place of the previously arranged Coronation service throughout the Empire on the 26th. Most noteworthy are the reports of the heartfelt concern manifested by the native population in India for their Emperor's health.

* * * *

At last the great struggle for the independence of the South African Republics has been brought to a close. On the 31st May after much conferring between the representatives and the authorities, terms were arrived at and signed at Vereenigen.

We can only hope that the terms agreed upon will be as duly appreciated by the Burghers as they deserve, and that the recent animosity will quickly be superseded by loyalty to the Government in the new colony. Let bygones be bygones seems to be the united wish, and, sealed as it is by the blood of many of the nearest and dearest of ourselves and our fellow-citizens in the South African dominions, no bond could be stronger.

* * * *

We have to apologise for wrongly inserting the date of the birth of the son of Captain and Mrs. Graham in our last issue. It should have been stated as "19th May."

* * * *

We are glad to welcome Captain Hyslop back to the Battalion again from South Africa. He has taken over his old Company, "B," and is looking extremely fit and well.

* * * *

One hundred men of the South African draft have proceeded to Ranikhet under Captain Marshall. The remainder have been located at Jalapahar.

* * * *

Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean while conducting a party up to Jalapahar had the misfortune to be bitten by a rabid dog. Arrangements were quickly made for his departure to the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli, where he is to be treated.

Lieutenant H. M. Thomson arrived during the month from South Africa and took over command of "D" Company from Captain Marshall, proceeding to Ranikhet.

* * * *

2nd Lieut. R. R. Forbes has gone to Ranikhet for duty with the draft at the Standing Camp.

* * * *

All the men who took the Bounty and short furlough home have now rejoined with the exception of Corporal Macgillivray and Bandsman

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Lightbody. The former remains at home for an extended period owing to ill-health and the latter had to go ashore at Malta for the same reason. We wish them both a speedy recovery to health.

* * * *

The arrangements and details in connection with the Delhi Coronation Durbar are being steadily worked out. As expected, the Battalion has been honoured by inclusion in the detail of troops selected to attend. Two other Scotch Regiments besides the NINETY-THIRD are to be present, namely, the 2nd Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers, a wing of which Battalion is our neighbour at Dum-Dum, and our old linked Battalion comrades the Ninety-Second Gordon Highlanders. The following is a brief detail of the British troops to attend:—3 Regiments of Cavalry; 3 Batteries, Royal Horse Artillery; 2 Brigade Divisions, consisting of 3 batteries in each Division, Royal Field Artillery; 6 Companies, Royal Garrison Artillery; 2 Mountain Batteries; 13 Infantry Battalions. The strength at which each unit will proceed to Delhi is not yet known, but information on the subject is expected shortly. The total number of troops, British and native, is, however, expected to be about 40,000. Advantage is to be taken of the concentration of such a large body of troops to hold manœuvres on a large scale. No details of the manœuvre scheme have, as far as our limited knowledge goes, yet seen the light.

* * * *

From a letter just to hand from a correspondent with the First Battalion we learn that the Ninety-First arrived back in Klerksdorp towards the end of May from a very successful drive into the Cape Colony. We regret to learn also that Private Crosby, a late and popular member of "C" Company of this Battalion, died in Klerksdorp. The Battalion expected to go on trek again in a few days' time.

—:o:—

A short time ago a schoolmaster sent the King an extract from a young schoolboy's essay on "The Coronation Day." His Majesty, after reading this, remarked: "I was once told by a well-known headmaster that the average schoolboy possessed much unconscious humour. I now quite believe it." The following is the extract:—

"The King will ware on Coronation day his crown and close, which will be carried before him by the archbishup of Canterbury: after the King has had ointment given him in the abbey he will march back agane with great dignity to Windsor Castle.

"The duke of Norfulk will look after the King with a gold stick."

Colonel Trotter receives the freedom of the Burgh of Stirling.

—o—

On the 7th May last, at a Special Meeting of the Stirling Town Council Colonel Trotter received at their hands the highest compliment they had it in their power to bestow on any one. The minute bearing thereon tells that the Provost, Magistrates and Councillors of the Royal Burgh of Stirling receive and admit Philip Durham Trotter, Esquire, Stirling Castle, Colonel Commanding the 91st Regimental District in Scotland, to the liberty and freedom of an Honorary Burgess of the said Burgh, in recognition of the arduous labours of his command; his active and willing help in furthering matters of local interest; and his successful efforts to maintain a cordial and sympathetic understanding between the civilians and soldiers in Stirling.

The Burgess Ticket was illuminated on vellum and was contained in a folio, the silver-mounted boards of which were made of oak from the Douglas Room, and bore a shield with the arms of the Royal Burgh.

Colonel Trotter signed the Burgess Roll and Provost Thomson in his eulogistic speech touched on his long service in the army and his part in the diplomatic mission to Morocco, before coming to his more immediate connection with the depôt town of his Regiment, and the successful discharge of his duties at the castle and their relation to the Burgh. He then handed him the Burgess Ticket expressing the hope that it would also serve the purpose of recalling local associations and the kindly feeling which the inhabitants of Stirling had for him.

Colonel Trotter thanked the Provost and Town Council for their gift, and for the kindly expressions of the Chairman, in a few feeling sentences, and said that any good it may have been his privilege to do for Stirling was done very much owing to the generosity of the town and district.

The Marquis of Graham then in a few words expressed the pleasure it caused those who had witnessed that afternoon the civilian reward to one who had served king and country for so long in the self-denying life of a soldier, and led three hearty cheers for the Colonel.

—:o:—

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO COLONEL TROTTER.

—o—

In the evening the Colonel was honoured by a complimentary dinner at the Golden Lion Hotel, to which between seventy and eighty gentlemen sat down, and apologies from numerous persons of note were intimated. The list of guests is too long to reproduce in these

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columns, but we notice among the names all our old friends of the NINETY-THIRD and many others.

The Marquis of Graham presided and the list of toasts left nothing to be desired. In proposing the health of "Our Guest" the Chairman said that it was greatly owing to Colonel Trotter that the regiment whose depôt he commanded repeatedly responded so satisfactorily to the calling of volunteers for service.

Colonel Trotter in his reply, which was applauded warmly throughout, expressed his gratitude to all who had done him the honour of being present that night, and touched on his work during the appointment he was vacating, mentioning the Clyde Defences which were in course of construction, and passing on to the enormous extent of work which had to be done during the present war. He drew favourable comparisons between the procuring of volunteers in the command and that of other districts and noted that it was to the war that they owed the closer union of the civil and military elements in the nation.

After a toast to the success of the Memorial Home the proceedings terminated with God Save the King and Auld Lang Syne.

We wish success and prosperity to Colonel Trotter in his command of the 34th Brigade, Field Army.

—:o:—

Notes from Jalapahar.

—o—

We had a successful concert on May 2nd, organized by Lieut. Douglas, K. O. S. Borderers.

The intention being to discover, if possible, the required talent, for future occasions it was very successful. Pte. Burke carried the audience with him with "The Football Referee" and should make a useful addition to the XCIII Theatrical Company. The programme was long and varied, and was much applauded.

The sports which were to have taken place on the 11th, had to be postponed owing to the wet weather till the following day. Representatives of all the detatchments round Darjeeling were in evidence, and the events elicited keen contests, notably the Tug-of-war, which was at length decided in favour of the K. O. S. Borderers, the NINETY-THIRD being second. We had several prize-winners however, Lance-Corporal Tawse being successful in the open half mile, Pte. McLennan in throwing the shot and Pte. King in the Gymnastic competitions on the Parallel Bars and the Vaulting Horse.

—:o:—

A TERRIBLE AFFAIR.

Surgeants Owen and Bunce are detailed to Bash Cady Bald, Chamberlain, hee and Whibley to mendhim and hyle to Wait Wylie gets a Barrow.

The above is a medley of names of N. C. O's. and men of one mess on board S.S. "Malacca" during the voyage from London to Bombay, May 1902.

With the draft to South Africa.

—o—

About 1 P.M. on the 4th of May there was a great deal of excitement on the Starboard side of the "Syria," and the cause was not far to seek. The news soon went round the ship that the long dark line on the horizon was Natal in sight, and a very welcome bit of news it was. Orders were given out that we should disembark at 2-30 P.M. on the 5th, but we did not finally leave the ship till 4 o'clock.

Having stood for a couple of hours on deck in a downpour of rain we did not relish another two of the same in the docks. While we were waiting to disembark two German passenger steamers passed us homeward bound, the "Kurfürk" and the "Kaiser." They both gave us a hearty cheer and played a tune on the band. After the delay in the docks, we entrained in full marching order with kits and equipment and 150 rounds, to the number of ten in a compartment. So there was barely room for sitting; and as we spent the next three days there, we got to know each other pretty well once more. The first station we came to was Pietermaritzburg, where we got some hot tea. We passed a refuge camp the next morning, which seemed to us to be about twice the size of the Boer camp at Shahjahanpur. We got nothing to eat for the first twenty-three hours of the journey and began to feel rather tired of roughing it. Lieut. Thomson handed us over to Major Irvine who is going to take us up to the regiment, and Mr. Thomson stayed in Durban instead of taking us up-country as we had hoped. Sergt. Gilbert was detailed at Durban to take our spare kits to Cape Town, our base, and we do not know if he will rejoin us again or not. After our privations bully beef and biscuits engrossed our attention at times, followed sometimes by coffee and marmalade, but now we are in camp we get bread and jam every day, and bacon and cheese twice a week, so we have every reason to be content. But to continue with the journey; we arrived at Chievely at 1 P.M. on the 6th, and as our train took one of its proverbial short halts for an hour or more, we took the opportunity of visiting the graves of the men who fell at Colenso, including Lieut. Roberts'. They are all marked by white marble crosses, and indeed a similar sight was to be seen all along the side of the railway, for apart from the little graveyards the veldt is dotted with stones and monuments erected on the spot where the men fell. We passed our first block-house at Estcourt (Sergt. Olden and ten of our draft are in one now). At Standerton, where we arrived at 9 A.M. on the 7th, we met the old Q. M. S. of the NINETY-FIRST, he is now Captain Boyd in the Police.

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Things are very quiet here in Klerksdorp, and the result of the peace conference will not be known till the 25th. We played a foot-ball match here against the Seaforths, but as they had some five companies to choose from, we were quite prepared for the defeat we got, the game ending at two goals to nil. It would not be fair to criticize the play of either of the teams as the game was played in a very high wind, which carried clouds of red sand with it. The weather is getting very cold now, our bivouacs being often covered with frost in the morning,

The Battalion marches from Hartebeestefontein to a place about 7 miles from here to-day, so we are under orders to join them either to-morrow or Saturday, the 24th May. This is the latest news I have, so will conclude with the best wishes of the draft to their comrades in India. Hoping to be able to give you the incidents of our first "Trek" in my next letter.

Yours as B 4,

JOHN BULL.

—:o:—

Sergeants' Mess News.

—o—

Fortnightly dances have been revived in the Sergeants' Mess, and judging from the attendance at the two dances held during the last month the "Light Fantastic Trippers" are as enthusiastic as ever, despite the heat and other attendant discomforts. Sergeant Durnan is the popular and energetic M. C. and under his directing hand everything has worked smoothly and well.

The weekly tennis "At Home" has been discontinued for the present owing to the "impossible weather" at times vouchsafed us by the monsoon god. A return to the old order of things will be made as soon as we can dispense with the obnoxious warning—affixed to almost every engagement at this season—"weather permitting."

About 30 per cent. of the members of the Mess are away from Head-quarters at present and one naturally wonders at times where they can all have got to. A careful study of the Roll reveals the following distribution:—At Home on furlough (where we'd all like to be)—Colour Sergeants Chaplin, Gunn and Soutar, Sergeants Johnstone, Ballantine and Mahoney. Ranikhet—Sergeants Chisholm, Edgar, Maskell and White. Jalapahar—Sergeants Ritchie, Brash and Stobie. Pachmari—Sergeant Forbes. Roorkee—Sergeant Gurney. Officiating somewhere or other as a Volunteer-Instructor—Sergeant Watt. South Africa with 3rd Battalion—Sergeants Barrett, Ward and Allison.

The Pasteur Institute of India, KASAULI.

—o—

Opened in August 1900, there are few who realize what an immense amount of work in the scientific investigation of germs of all sorts of diseases is carried on here under the directorship of Major Semple, R.A.M.C. There are always medical officers attending at Kasauli to make a better acquaintance with this form of science at his hands.

But leaving out of the question experiments connected with such germs as cholera, plague, enteric fever (or typhoid), diphtheria and many others, as well as poison from snake bites, which is receiving special attention, it will be sufficient here to sketch the preventive treatment for Hydrophobia, for which the Pasteur Institute is best known by the general public.

Hydrophobia is the name applied to the disease in man and rabies when it attacks animals. It is developed in human beings from the bites of mad dogs, jackals, wolves, or other animals. The poison, or virus as it is called, conveyed from the teeth of the mad animal grows along the nerves till it reaches the brain. The treatment at the Pasteur Institute, which is essentially preventive and not curative, is to render patients immune before the virus of the animal that bit them reaches the brain. This is accomplished by the hypodermic inoculation of rabies virus of different degrees of strength, commencing with a weak virus and gradually going on to a very strong one.

Virus from a mad wolf or jackal is very much stronger than that of a dog. A bite in the head is far more serious than a bite in the foot, because the virus has a much shorter distance to travel to reach the brain. Therefore every case has to be dealt with on separate lines, and has to be treated in different ways, the nature of the wound and all the other features being taken into account.

The rabies virus with which patients are inoculated is obtained from the spinal cords of rabbits which have been inoculated with rabies and have died of that disease. It is only by tests that its existence is known. The only way of obtaining it is from the spine or brain of these animals. Rabbits are selected because of their susceptibility and the strength of the virus obtained from them, and one or two are inoculated daily. The operation is performed under ether, the animal is trephined, that is a portion of its skull removed, and a few drops of the virus from a rabid rabbit are inoculated into the brain, and the skin is sewn up. So little do they feel it that within three minutes from the moment of their taking the ether they are eating a hearty meal of gram.

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They die on the tenth day after inoculation and up to the last day eat their food readily and feel no effects other than the paralysis which seizes them from about the seventh day. The spine is then opened and the marrow, or cord as it is called, is removed in two pieces, and these are hung in bottles which have been specially prepared so that no foreign germs can get at the cord. The bottles are prepared by being sterilized in a heat of one-and-a-half times boiling temperature, twice as much as is necessary to kill any germs, and caustic potash is put in to dry the air, a continual current of which passes through the bottles through wads of cotton wool with which the holes, one top and bottom, are plugged. The bottles are then stored in a room which is kept dark and at exactly the same temperature always, summer and winter.

The cord does not lose any of its virulence until after three days, and it is not used after fourteen days. As required a most minute portion is chipped off, for the cord becomes dry and brittle in a very short time, and is ground down with a salt solution in a kind of wine glass. This glass and its lid are both carefully sterilized, as also is the hypodermic syringe used for inoculating patients, and in fact every instrument that in any way comes in contact with the cord or virus. Any contact between them and the skin is very dangerous, and the place is carefully cleansed at once with carbolic acid.

The patient's side is wiped with carbolic acid at the place where the inoculation is to be, and the needle point of the syringe is inserted a short way under the skin and the required amount of virus injected. The syringe is sterilized in boiling oil every few seconds. There are no after-effects beyond perhaps a slight stiffness in the sides for the first few days, and moderate exercise and ordinary food do not hinder the treatment.

For an average case, that is where the patient has not been bitten severely, or near the brain, and when he arrives at the Institute within a week or ten days of the accident, the course of treatment is probably as follows:—The first day a dose from a 14-day old cord, which is the weakest, would be injected, and afterwards the cord used is generally one or two days fresher according as one or two inoculations are given until on the 9th or 10th day the strongest of all is used, a 3-day old cord. Next day it is probably a 7-day old one and daily down to 3, then perhaps back to a 5-day old cord and down again to the 3-day one, and so on, until about the 21st day the last injection is made from a 3-day old cord. In all there are probably three or four injections of the strongest cord, each time going back immediately afterwards to a weaker one.

Thus the patient by frequent injections of rabies virus becomes so immunised that he is impervious to the virus from the teeth of the animal, and its virus is ineffectual in producing any effect on him.

A very important item is that the treatment should be commenced as soon as possible, and therefore a person bitten by a rabid animal should come for treatment at once.

Such roughly is the treatment which a 'barker,' as he is locally known, undergoes at the Pasteur Institute.

The Institute is maintained by voluntary contributions and also by a grant from Government. It is extraordinary to observe to what an extent investigations are carried on within its walls, connected as they are with the origin, spread and prevention of the infectious diseases of India. The number of patients vary considerably. Sometimes there are over 60 and at others only 6.

BARKER.

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Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders' Graves at Magersfontein.

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To

LIEUT.-COL. J. H. CAMPBELL,
Commdg. 2nd A. and S. Highlanders.
ST. MARIE, STIRLING, N. B.
3rd June 1902.

MY DEAR SIR,

I do not know how to thank yourself, the officers and men of your Regiment, for their great and kind consideration for the graves of their fallen comrades at Magersfontein. I am in communication with Mr. Westerman, and he will acknowledge the donation direct to you, and I have also asked him to send you photographs of the three graveyards.

Mr. Westerman expected to leave for this country last month, so that I fear the photos cannot reach you till his return. Again thanking you heartily.

Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
F. F. HALDANE.

The above has been received by the Commanding Officer with reference to a donation sent from the Regiment for the upkeep of the graves of our comrades who fell at Magersfontein. The amount forwarded was £30, and was the result of a theatrical performance last summer at Ranikhet.

The following description of the cemetery appeared in the *Stirling Sentinel* of 3rd June:—

THE HIGHLANDERS' CEMETERY AT MODDER RIVER.

A correspondent describes in the columns of the *Diamond Fields Advertiser* of the 10th ultimo

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to hand on Saturday, a visit he paid to "The Highland Cemetery," which lies about a quarter of a mile from Modder River Station. He writes:—"It would take a harder heart and a less emotional temperament than mine to prevent that throb of the heart accompanying the lumpy throat and tearful eye as I entered the sacred place. Here sleep most of the Highlanders who fell at Magersfontein, and here, too, the gallant Wauchope found a resting place till afterwards removed to Matjesfontein. It might be that kinship of blood had something to do with it—it might be not—but it was with curiously mingled feelings I walked among the graves. 'Tis but a bare two years since this was as the dry, bare velt around. A miraculous change has taken place. The graves are beautifully kept. The walks are in perfect order, while borders and vacant places are planted out with trees (some now 10 feet high), the picture of health and growth, shrubs, and rows of dahlias, &c., and at one grave my heart glowed warm to see a bunch of moorland Scottish heather covered with glass, a token of love from rhome, with this appended note—'In affectionate emembrance of our dear son and other members of the Black Watch, who fell at Magersfontein, 11th December 1899—I. G., I. M. G., Edinburgh, August 16th, 1901,' and I could not help thinking how cheered and comforted that mother's heart would be, as also those of many others in Scotland, England and Ireland to see how sweetly pretty is this hallowed ground."

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Obituary.

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CAPTAIN ANGUS SMITH.

There passed away at his residence, Opotiki, New Zealand, in April last, Captain Angus Smith, N. Z. C., of the Opotiki Cavalry, who deserves more than a mere passing notice. He served in the Crimea as a Color-Sergeant of the 93rd Highlanders, and had the Crimean and Turkish medals. On his arrival in New Zealand during the Maori war he joined the Bay of Plenty Cavalry as Cornet, and when in charge of an escort in June 1869, they were ambushed at Opeppe, and nine out of thirteen were killed. Cornet Smith was severely wounded in the foot, and set out to try and find his superior officers to inform them of what had happened. He was caught by the Hauans, stripped of his clothing and medals, and tied to a tree. After four days he managed to release himself, and was ten days without food. He got a drink on the seventh day by crawling to a stream. The Imperial Government reissued his medals, and the Colonial Government awarded him the New Zealand Cross for his bravery and endurance. The deceased was the beau ideal of a Cavalry Officer, and a fine-looking man.—*The Regiment.*

Home and Depot Notes.

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His Majesty the King held a Levée and an Investiture at St. James' Palace on Monday, 2nd June, at which the following officers of the 4th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were presented:—Colonel A. C. D. Dick, C.B., Lieut.-Col. M. D. Campbell, D. S. O., Major J. T. Scott, Major W. Mure, Captain and Adjutant F. J. Richardson, D. S. O., Captains L. S. Pearson, G. C. Grahame, W. Hall, H. H. Houldsworth, R. R. Stewart, and H. G. Sotheby. Colonel J. M. Hunt, Commanding 91st Regimental District, and Lieutenant M. G. Sandeman, NINETY-THIRD, were also presented. Colonel Lord Blythswood, formerly Commanding 4th Battalion, was present as an Aide-de-Camp in waiting.

* * *

Captain B. A. Cuninghame, 4th Battalion, has been selected for appointment to a Captaincy in the Royal Scots Greys.

* * *

An Army Order has been issued which states that the rank of Second Lieutenants, Lieutenants, and Captains shall in future be denoted on all uniforms other than the service dress jacket, by the following badges: Second Lieutenant, one star; Lieutenant, two stars; Captain, three stars. The badges of other ranks will remain as at present.

* * *

The Scotchmen of Manchester are at present busy forming a kilted Battalion of Volunteers. It is proposed that with the sanction of the War Office the tartan to be worn will be the Sutherland tartan out of compliment to the Princess Louise, whose husband, the Duke of Argyll, is extremely well-known in Manchester, having sat for one of the parliamentary divisions of the city. Captain Houldsworth of the 4th Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, has been offered the command. There appears to be no lack of pipers in Manchester, a great many having already offered their services.

* * *

There is considerable merriment in military circles, says the "Club Chatterer" in "To-day," over a recent Army Order, which contains a perfect gem of unconscious humour on the part of the officer who drew it up. The order in question has reference to the new machine guns which have recently been issued to certain Volunteer corps, and sets forth that wherever possible a mule should be employed to draw the weapons. "When a mule is not available, however," the order proceeds, "any intelligent non-commissioned officer may be employed instead."

* * *

Lieutenant A. L. C. Clarke, 1st Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who is an Assistant Instructor at the School of Musketry, Hythe, is to be employed as Adjutant of the

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Lambeth Camp during the Coronation Celebrations.

* * *

Sergeant-Major Watters of the 4th V. B. A. and S. Highlanders still holds to his reputation as a crack shot. In spite of the many years' service to his credit, he has won his place as one of the two representatives from the Battalion who go to Bisley this year.

* * *

Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Wolrige-Gordon and ten non-commissioned officers and men of the ninety-first, and Captain Macalpine-Downie and five men of the 3rd Battalion, were due at Southampton on 25th June from South Africa to attend His Majesty the King's Coronation.

* * *

The British forces in South Africa at the close of the war comprise the following:—Regular Cavalry, 21 regiments; Royal Horse Artillery, 7 batteries; Royal Field Artillery, 39 batteries; Mountain Artillery, 2 batteries; Royal Garrison Artillery, 6 companies; Foot Guards, 6 battalions; Infantry of the Line, 81 battalions; Militia Infantry, 34 battalions; Royal Engineers, 19 companies; Army Service Corps, 41 companies; Imperial Yeomanry, 32 battalions; Mounted Infantry, 30 battalions. In addition, of course, there are the many Colonial corps, both those formed in South Africa itself and those from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, etc.

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Kilt and Plaid.

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The bravest and the best o' men
The world has ever seen
Hae fought wi' gleamin' bayonet
In many a battle keen.
Sae fought my sodger laddie
Roon' many a kopje side;
He's my bonnie sodger laddie
And he wears a kilt and plaid.

They're far across the ocean,
Six thousan' weary miles.
They've shared in mony a battle
The gallant, brave Argylls.
When they garrisoned the city
They were fairly Glesca's pride,
The strappin' sodger laddies
That wore the kilt and plaid.

The war will sune be ended,
My laddie will come hame,
And happy will oor hearts be
The day I change my name.
For it's lang since I hae promised
To be his ain dear bride,
And we'll never want a shelter
While he wears a kilt and plaid.

A Glasgow Girl.

In the Weekly Mail.

Native Legend of the founding of Fort William.

—o—

The following extract from "Hedge's Diary," quoted by Professor Wilson in the Early Annals of the English in Bengal, will probably be interesting to our readers:—

"When Chanak* was chief of the English, a flood arose and destroyed their house at Hughli. Then they cut down trees and began to build them a new house two and three storeys high. But the moslem nobles and great ones came to the Governor and said: 'These strange dogs of Englishmen are making their dwelling so high that they may spy into our homes and look upon our wives and daughters. Such a dishonour must not be permitted.' So the Governor sent and forbad all the masons and carpenters to carry on the work. Wherefore Chanak made ready to fight. For the Moguls came together in great multitudes and Chanak had only a few men and one ship. But with a burning glass he caught the sun's fires, and burnt the river face of the city as far as Chandanagar.

Then the Governor took two great iron chains. Each chain had many links, and each link weighed twenty-two pounds. These chains he stretched across the Hughli. But Chanak cut the chains with his sword and went on his way to the Deccan.

Having thus defeated the malice of his foes he went to the Court of King Aurangzeb, who was at this time fighting against the King of the Deccan. Chanak was brought into the presence of the King, and stood before him with folded arms. Then one came and whispered to the King that the provisions of the Mogul army were all gone; and the King's countenance fell and his thought troubled him. Now Chanak perceived that the King was troubled, and knew that it was because he had no food left. He therefore ordered his servants to carry in secret all sorts of meat and drink to the King's army. This act of generosity won the heart of the King, and he said to Chanak: 'ask what you will and I will give it you.' But Chanak said: 'First bid me defeat your enemies and then I will take somewhat from you.' So Chanak having obtained orders from the King, marched against the enemy and put his armies to flight. Then he came again and stood before the King and asked that the English might be given the village of Calcutta. And the King consented and departed to Delhi, but Chanak returned and founded Fort William."

* Job Charnock.

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Athletics.

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Football.

The Calcutta League is now finished as far as concerns the placing of the first three teams. The King's Own Scottish Borderers are to be congratulated on their success, which was mainly due to the almost unvarying form shown by their eleven. Although second to the Borderers on points our team may fairly lay claim to have emerged with considerable credit from the league competition; let us hope they will do themselves equal credit in the coming contest for the I. F. A. Challenge Shield. A brief description of most of the matches played and a league table up to date is appended.

League Matches.

Ninety-third vs. *Rangers—Played on 3rd June.*—This game was played on the Rangers' ground, but unfortunately a storm came on a few minutes before time and the match had to be stopped. This was really a great disappointment to us as we were leading by three goals to nil, and had played a hard game.

Ninety-third vs. *Y. M. C. A.—Played on 4th June.*—Lieutenant Forbes and Private Cairns had a day off, as the "young men" were not reckoned dangerous. Shortly after the start play found itself in front of the "Young Men's" goal and their custodian whilst saving was knocked through the goal by Turnbull, McKenzie, Turnbull and O'Connor had a try in quick succession but failed to find the net: The Y. M. C. A. had now a good combined run and really looked like scoring, but Coventry was on the alert and saved nicely. A shot by McKenzie put the team up two goals and then Hogg followed with number three, a beautiful low shot. The second half was very uninteresting, the only point of interest except the goal O'Connor scored being the spirited dash made by the "Young Men" forwards and a fine shot for goal which Coventry only saved at the expense of a corner. *Result—Ninety-third, 4 goals; Y. M. C. A., 0.*

Ninety-third vs. *Howrah—Played on 10th June.*—The fact that Howrah beat us in our first match, and also defeated the likely champions of the League—the King's Own Scottish Borderers—added a little more than ordinary interest to this game especially as both teams were out in full strength. Howrah immediately after the kick off took the ball into our territory and became aggressive, but were called up for being offside in front of our goal. From the free kick Cairns carried the ball up the field and passed to Hogg, who had a shot for goal which was only saved by giving away a corner. Nothing but another corner resulted from the kick, and then McKenzie was unfortunate with a shot which struck the cross bar. Shortly afterwards a rally round the Howrah's goal gave promise of something definite but bad luck and erratic shooting spoiled our chances. The speed of our opponents at this time was something to be admired, and although they had very little of the game during first half, their running told heavily against our team, who are far from being in perfect condition. With the exception of about a dozen corners for our team and a shot from Lieutenant Forbes which well deserved a goal, nothing futher happened until half-time. On resuming the 93rd took the ball well up the field and McGowan at half-back sent in a beautiful long shot which Bennett with difficulty cleared. Then Howrah, led by Woods and Smith, had a short time in front of our sticks, but Coventry was at his post and cleared nicely. McGowan had another try for goal, the ball striking the left post. Corner, corner, corner and another corner was all that could be heard from the now angry "Jocks." Lieutenant Forbes then worked the ball past all but the goal-keeper and his shot which was good a one was saved at the expense of a corner. Howrah got away but only for a minute, when we were at their goal again. But try as we would the long looked-for goal would not come.

Result—93rd Highlanders, 0; Howrah, 0.

The following is the team which played in this match:—

Coventry.

	Wallace.		Scott.	
	Auchinvole.	McGowan.		McLean.
Lt. Forbes.	McKenzie.	Montgomery.	Cairns.	Hogg.

Ninety-third vs. *79th R. G. A.—Played on 14th June.*—This game was played on our ground and in view of the plucky display made by the Gunners in most of their league matches the game was hardly expected to be an easy win for our team. However, the Gunners were never really dangerous a fact which is endorsed by Coventry only having one shot to deal with. *Result—Ninety-third, 5 goals; 79th R. G. A., 0.*

Ninety-third vs. *K. O. S. Borderers—Played on 18th June.*—This game created a vast amount of interest and was played off on the Howrah ground selected by the K. O. S. B's. who had choice of the ground. The final result 4 goals to love is a correct indication of the superiority of the Ninety-third team on the day in question. Had they played throughout the league with the same determination to win that they showed in this match, we venture to think that they would have done more justice to themselves and reaped more honour than they hitherto have had.

The game was started punctually at 5-30, and for the first few minutes the exchanges were fairly even, and then Hogg got away but shot wide. Three corners were now obtained by the 93rd in quick succession, but nothing came of them. About seven minutes from the start a fine centre by Pollock was nicely headed through by McKenzie. The K. O. S. B's. then made a determined attack on our goal but Coventry ran out and took the ball from Cassidy, and so saved the situation. A good pass by McKenzie to Pollock enabled the latter to send in a good shot, which, however, hit the bar. Hogg next gave Pollock a chance but nothing came of it. The K. O. S. B's. then attacked but Cruickshank's shot went well over the bar. Shortly after Hogg centered beautifully, but McKenzie headed over. A minute or two later O'Connor sent in a good shot, which brought McGharry to his knees in saving, and McKenzie, catching the ball, as it came out, sent it through. The game had hardly been re-started when Pollock centred for McKenzie, who shot the third goal from a long distance, a splendid shot. Shortly after this half time put a temporary end to the struggle.

In the first four or five minutes of the second half the play was very even. Then Hogg tried a shot, and shortly afterwards McKenzie another one, which went high. McKenzie had to leave the field at this juncture, and for the next seven or eight minutes the advantage of play lay with the K. O. S. B's. When he returned, however, the balance quickly veered round to the other side. Pollock and McGowan ran down and the K. O. S. B's. goal-keeper had to leave his charge to clear. McKenzie then got on to the ball and passed to Pollock, who centred beautifully and O'Connor passed it through. From then until the finish play still ruled in favour of our team, but although several attempts were made, no further scoring took place. *Result—Ninety-third, 4 goals; K. O. S. B's., 0.*

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Following were the teams:—

93rd Highlanders.—Coventry (goal); Wallace and Scott (backs): Auchinvole, McGowan and McLean (half-backs); Pollock, McKenzie, Montgomery, O'Connor and Hogg (forwards).

K. O. S. B's.—McGarry (goal); McChesney and McDonald (backs); Jardine, Stewart, and Bradley (half-backs); Byers, Kennedy, Massey, Cassidy and Cruickshank (forwards).

Ninety-third vs. Dalhousie—Played on 21st June.—This was a most unsatisfactory game after the excellent performance of the team against the K. O. S. B's. in the previous match. Scott and Hogg were deficient, being replaced by Gibson and Wilson, but that does not excuse the team for not making a better show. They had all the play in the first half, but were completely out of it in the second. *Result—a draw; 1 goal each.*

Ninety-third vs. Calcutta—Played on 24th June.—The match with the premier club excited a vast amount of interest and drew an enormous crowd to witness the play. Despite the prognostications of the Calcutta newspaper scribes the Ninety-third did not again meet their masters, though we are bound to confess that a draw would have been a fairly accurate indication of the play. As it was the lucky star of the Ninety-third was in the ascendant that evening and the match ended in a victory for the "Sojers." *Result—Ninety-third, 1 goal; Calcutta, 0.*

The re-played Tie, Ninety-third *vs.* Rangers, resulted in a win for us by 2 goals to 1, and in the return match by another win of 1 goal to love.

The Barrackpur R. A. match ended in an easy win for the Ninety-third by 3 goals to 1. The return match with the Y. M. C. A., which was to have come off on 5th July, has been scratched by the "Young Men" and so the league is now finished as far the Ninety-third is concerned.

LEAGUE TABLE UP TO DATE.

Order.	Team.	Matches.				Goals.		Points.
		Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	For	Against	
1	K. O. S. B's. ...	16	12	2	2	54	13	26
2	Ninety-third ...	16	11	3	2	37	10	25
3	79th R. G. A. ...	16	8	3	5	24	26	19
4	Calcutta ...	16	8	2	6	25	18	18
5	Howrah ...	15	6	4	5	20	16	16
6	Rangers ...	15	5	4	6	15	17	14
7	Dalhousie ...	16	4	5	7	12	30	13
8	Barrackpur R. A.	14	2	2	10	9	32	6
9	Y. M. C. A. ...	16	0	3	13	4	38	3

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Brevity may be misunderstood.

—o—

One of the latest books on the last war "The Epistles of Atkins" contains the following amusing "yarn":—

Here it is:—Telegram from the G. O. C. of the District to O. C.——Regt.: "The G. O. C. requires the use of your house." Answer from O. C.: "*Re* loan of my quarters, the G. O. C. can G. T. H." Being asked for an explanation of this strange message he replied, "The G. O. C. can 'Get The House.'"

Water Gala.

—o—

From three to six o'clock on the afternoon of Wednesday, 25th June, the Garrison Swimming Bath was packed by a large crowd of spectators to witness the first aquatic sports of the season. The programme commenced with the company mail races, a very popular item. Teams consisted of four members, each individual of which had to swim for fifty yards with an open haversack slung over the shoulder to impede progress. The best time from start to finish counted, and as two teams started together, excitement was sustained throughout the contest. "F" Company eventually "swam out" winners of a most interesting competition. The semi-final of the Novices race—preliminary heats had come off the day before—resulted in Privates McPhee, Hawthorne, and Drummer Dunne being left in for the final. Private Ure, "F" Company, followed with an exhibition of porpoise swimming. The "plunge," which came next, was won by Private Farquharson with Drummer Seton second. An exhibition of "All Styles" swimming by Private Pollock followed, and, needless to remark, was of absorbing interest. The result of the Novices race ended in a win for Private McPhee, plucky little Drummer Dunne being a good second. Privates Pollock and Robertson next gave an excellent exhibition of floating, and this was followed by an amusing sketch "wha's next for shaving." Piper Burns as Barber and Private Farquharson as his attendant soap boy, both dressed in appropriate costumes, carried out their parts to perfection, causing hearty roars of laughter, especially at the *finale*, when both followed their customers into the water accompanied by their gigantic razor and the remainder of their stock-in-trade. The "Graceful Diving," owing to the large number of competitors and the high standard of excellence shown, took a long time to decide, Private Ure coming out a good first. A capital afternoon's entertainment concluded with a polo match between teams representing right and left half battalions. A very clever game ended in a 3—1 victory for the left wing team, Private Pollock scoring 2 goals and Private Wright 1 goal for the winning side and Drummer Seton, the goal notched by his team.

The entertainment was visited during the afternoon by Colonel Campbell and most of the officers. Thanks are due to Captain McCandlish and Lieutenants J. Kennedy and Hamilton for the assistance rendered by them as Judges and Starters. For Private Pollock and Lance-Corporal Peacock, to whose enthusiasm the successful organisation of the event should be credited, too much cannot be said; and we trust that the knowledge that their whole-hea.ted efforts to

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promote the success of an excellent pastime is duly appreciated by all true lovers of sport in the battalion, will spur them on to further efforts in the future.

The following were the results :—

COMPANY MAIL RACE.

"F" Company 1
Team—Privates Ure, Kay, Harper and Thompson.
"A" Company 2
Team—Privates Campbell, White, Getchell and Lance-Corporal Armour.

NOVICES' RACE.

Private McPhee, "E" Campany 1
Drummer Dunne, "E" „ 2
Private Hawthorne, "H" „ 3

EXHIBITION OF PORPOISE SWIMMING BY PRIVATE URE.

PLUNGING.

Private Farquharson, "C" Company, (43 ft. 1 in.) 1
Drummer Seton, "G" „ (40 ft. 4 in.) 2
Private Rennie, "G" „ (39 ft. 10 in.) 3

EXHIBITION "ALL STYLES" SWIMMING BY PRIVATE POLLOCK.

EXHIBITION OF FLOATING BY PRIVATES POLLOCK AND ROBERTSON.

GRACEFUL DIVING.

Private Ure, "F" Company 1
„ Robertson, "H" „ 2
„ Getchell, "A" „ 3

FIVE-A-SIDE WATER POLO MATCH—RIGHT *vs.* LEFT HALF BATTALION.

Left Half Team.—Privates Pollock, Wright, Black, White and Drummer Cridland.
Winners.
Right Half Team.—Drummer Seton, Privates Kay, Campbell, Robertson, and Lance-Corporal Armour.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT it would be nice tae be staunding on the tap o' Loch Lomond the noo.

That you never ken you're leevin' till ye've prickly heat.

That the tuppany step gathers nae moss.

That the flying fish we saw comin' oot were curious birds.

The ye maun toe the line wi' your heels on it as weel.

That they were tae fire at the two white natives walking along the road in a gharri.

That he had a freen in anither Heiland regiment wha wis his biggest enemy.

That a good start is a bad beginning.

That they had twa kicks at him.

That it's a lang lane that hisna a short cut.

That it kens the saft air at Jalapahar is bad for the breath.

That it would like tae hear sometimes frae its second cousin at Ranikhet.

That ony information aboot the standing camp sq—ahem, Sutherland Recreation Ground would be welcome.

Temperance Notes.

—o—

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF RECHABITES.

It may be interesting to your readers to hear how "Excelsior Tent," No. 190, is progressing in the Regiment. I am sorry to say that since our arrival at Calcutta many old members have left our ranks, some to South Africa, and others violated. It is with the most sincere regret that I have to report the death of Bro. J. Donnelly, one of our oldest members. The sad event occurred at sea sometime in April, when Bro. Donnelly was on his way home, having been invalided from Shahjahanpur.

We Rechabites anticipated doing great things on our arrival in the Capital of India, but up till quite recently these hopes did not seem likely to be realised. For a time the many attractions of Calcutta spoiled the attendance at our meetings, but I am glad to say that the tide has turned lately and the meetings are now as they should be. Sixteen initiations with the promise of a few more in the near future is the result of our recent labours. Our new cabinet for the ensuing half-year has just been selected, and with such a promising set of officers we ought to feel assured that the result of their labours while in office will be worthy of the best traditions of "Excelsior."

The following are the names of the newly-appointed officers :—

Chief Ruler ...		...	Bro. C. Hewson.
Deputy Ruler ...		...	„ J. Mackenzie.
Past Chief Ruler		...	„ W. Thomas.
Secretary ...	Re-elected 4th term	...	„ S. T. Rodwell.
Asst. Secretary...	Re-elected	...	„ J. L. Duff.
Treasurer ...		...	„ J. Oliver.
Auditors ...		...	„ D. G. Newall.
			„ J. L. Duff.
Book Steward ...		...	„ W. Forbes.
Cash Steward ...		...	„ J. Steward.
Levite ...		...	„ G. Mackenzie.
Guardians ...	Re-elected	...	„ J. McGregor.
			„ G. Lees.
Trustees ...		...	„ D. G. Newall.
			„ J. L. Duff.
			„ J. Burns.
Tent Correspondent ...		...	„ D. G. Newall.
District Representative ...		...	„ D. G. Newall.
Alternate Representative ...		...	„ W. Thomas.

Information regarding the rules of the Order of Rechabites can be obtained at any time from the Chief Ruler, Secretary, or in fact any officer or member of the Tent. Everything will be explained to any one desirous of joining our ranks. Meetings are held every Thursday evening in the Regimental Theatre, inside the Fort, at six P.M. The doors are opened to visitors immediately after business.

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Royal Army Temperance Association.

It will have been noticed that the A. T. A. has had its title enlarged and it is to be hoped that the Royal Army Temperance Association will continne to deserve the mark of Royal favour that has been shown to it lately. Since the last Temperance Notes appeared in the "*Thin Yin*" several changes have taken place among the office-bearers of our Regimental Branch. Corporal Newall has succeeded Sergeant Sutherland in the important and arduous duties of Branch Secretary.

Owing to the departure of so many of our comrades to South Africa the roll of membership has been greatly decreased during the last few months. In common with other Temperance Societies in the Regiment the R. A. T. A. has to deplore the loss of some members owing to the many "attractions" of an indifferent character, which Calcutta offers to the light-hearted, absent-minded members. Calcutta being a Port town many engineers and sailors of our own nationality visit the place every month, and though they may be utter strangers yet the fact that "We're a' Jock Tamson's Bairns" dispenses with the formality of further introduction, and the result is often contrary to the principles of our members. The strength of our membership at present is only 215, but that fact does not make us despair of regaining possession of the Beatty Shield next year. The Middlesex Regiment has succeeded in wresting the Trophy from us this year, making the third time that Regiment's name has appeared on the Shield, but we have every intention of asserting a right to it again.

Last month a meeting was called for the purpose of balloting for the member who was to obtain the Annual "Association Medal" which is given to whoever in the opinion of the majority has been the most hardworking member during the year, exclusive of those already in possession of the distinction. Friend Laird, our able President, presided at the meeting and announced that Friend McMahon was the honoured member, with Friend Oliver as a good second, the latter indeed losing by only two votes.

The undermentioned are the officers at present in office:—

President	...	Friend Laird.
Vice-President	...	„ Scott.
Secretary	...	„ Newall.
Convenor of Finance Committee	...	„ Rodwell.
Members ditto	...	„ Burns.
		„ Gifford.

I hope to be able to give you next month a full account of "Honours Distribution," which is to take place sometime during the present month.

Son of Regiab.

The Gurripatam Derby.

—o—

"Did I go to the Derby, sir?" said the General, just as fiercely as if somebody had trodden on his best gouty big toe, "Am I a d—d fool? Tell me that, sir."

The young Post Captain, who had meant no harm by his question, made the necessary apologies, and the veteran was to some extent appeased.

"What is your English Derby?" the old gentleman observed to the world at large. "What is this Derby for which Parliament is adjourned, for which some hundreds of thousands make an uncomfortable journey to some beastly downs, disarrange the hours of their meals, and very possibly lose more money than they can afford?"

Nobody gave an answer, but a reckless young full Colonel suggested a riddle: "What did the Dar buy?" and was generally frowned at.

"I'll tell you," continued the General, who now saw that he had the course to himself, "You—for most of you will be idiots enough to go—pay money and eat dust, and spoil your clothes and your digestions to see a score of more or less broken down horses, brutes most of them that would kick a cab to pieces, run away with their riders round a railed-in course. Why, I've seen better racing with monkeys and dogs in a circus."

No man contradicted the General, though several old gentlemen sniggered behind the *Morning Post* or the *Times*.

Did any of you young fellows ever hear of the Gurripatam Derby—the little race that used to be brought off yearly in the time of the old Maharaja, the grandfather of the present man, a sportsman of the old school, who used to drink blood for his chota-haziri to keep himself fierce, and had a massacre of his subjects every five years to save the cholera the trouble of coming to his dominions?"

There was a pause, as though men were praying that lightning might not come through the ceiling.

"No; I suppose not. It was before the time of any of you fellows. Well, old Gurram Hyder used to give the populace once a year a real treat, and the tit-bit of the day's programme was the Derby—I named it that, for it was more or less what the sport of kings should be. He would begin the afternoon's amusement gently with a fight between a rhino and an elephant. Then he would have into the arena a well-starved tiger and a wild bull with green chilies rubbed into some open cuts to keep him lively, and they would have a turn up. There would be an entract of fighting rams, or something light of that kind; then the serious inter-

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est would be worked up by a few criminals being brought in and pounded up by the elephants kneeling on them, or perhaps a few robbers, or if robbers were scarce, common or garden villagers were brought in and buried alive in plaster of Paris.

"Ever see a man buried alive in plaster of Paris? Gurripatam Hyder got the idea from Persia—used to say it was the only useful tip he ever got out of foreign travel. You bring the fellow in and put him in a hole in the ground up to his neck, and then pour the plaster in. As it begins to set it begins to hurt, and Gurram used to say that the faces his plaster images made were far funnier than anything he ever saw a clown in a circus do. He used to laugh till the tears ran down his face.

"Ah!—oh, yes! The Gurripatam Derby. I was coming to say that; but you fellows are in such a confounded hurry. The arena was an oval, two hundred, or to be exact, two hundred and fifteen yards—I measured it once for a bet—wide. There was a big gate at the far end and another at the near end, over which was the Royal pavilion where Gurram sat, pulling away at his hookah, and sometimes throwing red pepper into the eyes of his concubines if he found them looking about a bit too much. I used to be beside him on another throne, with something very tasty in muslin and spangles and bangles to feed me with sweetmeats, and a quartette of others to fan me. There was one dear little thing—Gurram afterwards got jealous and had her bitten to death by red ants—who——

"All right, gentlemen. If you are in such a hurry I shall not tell you anything at all about the Derby. Gurram always had a stable full of man-eating tigers. He never let his stud of 'em fall below twenty, caught 'em mostly, but bred 'em as well, and there used always to be a nigger or two eaten every Sunday after church time in Gurram's own private little arena in the palace. Before the big day he would starve his man-eaters for a fortnight, and have a nigger rubbed up and down the bars of their cages morning and evening, just to give them the smell of something good. On the night before the big race he would send his bodyguard out into the villages and collect the twenty best runners in the State. They were let in at the big gate at the end, given fifty yards start, and then the man-eating tigers were set after them. If the niggers got to the other gate first they saved their lives. If the tigers had the feet of them they got a meal that had been postponed for a fortnight. Gurram had trained his tigers to be pretty fast, and I used to tell him that if he gave the men seventy-five yards start he would have had better finishes; but old Gurram was always an obstinate brute, and would never listen to any suggestions as to altering his handicaps.

"And you fellows ask me, I, who saw thirty-five—or was it thirty-four—Gurripatam Derbies, why I do not go down and see the tame fooling at Epsom?"—*Yellow Plume.*

—:o:—

A Legend of Calcutta.

—o—

The short twilight of an Indian evening was almost over and amongst the trees of the neighbouring jungle the intermittent flash of the busy firefly could be seen, while from its more remote thickets could be heard the increasing howls of its various wild inhabitants. Mists and vapours, as fewer grew the signs of day, gradually thickened, enveloping the adjoining thickets in a mantle of impenetrable cloud. Attaining greater height they at length completely closed over the last few remaining streaks of light left in the west, and imprisoned the moon, now rising, in a veil so thick that it appeared like a circular disc of dull brass. From the swamp and bogs which fed those mists an occasional fluttering and splashing could be heard, as, disturbed at their feeding, the water-fowl scrambled out of the way of some beast of prey in quest of a meal or some water. So in harmony with the spot were those noises, that the sepoy sentry on the ramparts of Fort William overlooking the marsh paid no more heed to them, than he would have done to the noise of a flock of sheep by day. More continuous became those sounds however, and so incessant were they, in degrees of proximity, that they at last attracted the sentry's notice, until presently he imagined he could distinguish a sound, regular and like that of horse-hoof sucking over swampy ground. So far too did his imagination carry, that he fancied he heard the clatter of weapon on pommel keeping time with the labouring of the horse's-hoofs. By and bye as nothing more substantial was forthcoming from the suspected quarter his attention gradually waned, and his thoughts imperceptibly turned to that on which they were engaged before.

It is not on record what the thoughts were of this vigilant warrior faithful to the British East India Company. No doubt they were very absorbing, as so interested was he in their pursuit that, unchallenged, a stranger was able to come within close distance, and undoubtedly could have gone away again, without disturbing him, if he had wished. Hailing however, he asked admission to the fort as he had news of great importance to communicate to the person in charge. Chagrined somewhat at being thus

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overtaken in his watch the sentry attempted to ply him with questions as to how he had managed to trace his way by such an unaccustomed route, for he doubted not that the stranger, now before him, was the cause of the sounds which had some time before attracted his attention. However, cutting him short in his catechising, the stranger once more demanded entrance, adding "Fool! do you imagine that I have, to bandy words with you, travelled night and day, performing a journey of exceeding length and great danger, only at last to fall a victim to the foul air of yonder swamps?" Awed and confused by the tone in which the demand was uttered, the brow-beaten sentry hastened to comply with the stranger's wish and accordingly informed the guard at the fort gate of an entrance demanded. Resuming his watch again he attempted to continue his musing, now twice broken in on, but, try as he would, he found his mind reverting to the cause of his recent perturbation.

Priding himself on his smartness of hearing and intelligence in reading such signs as sounds of animal or fowl disturbed in those wilds around, he had great difficulty in reconciling the words of the stranger with his own belief in regard to the direction taken from the swamp to the fort. Although he had imagined the sound of hoof and clank of sword to come from the marshes opposite, these had long been stilled ere the stranger's appearance, and consequently between the two there was no connection. From what specially interested himself he passed on, his thoughts turning inquisitively to what should be the purport of the important news and untimely visit and of such haste in journeying as the visitor appeared to have made, and lastly to what, in the confusion of finding himself before a stranger of such haughty demeanour, his understanding had not at the moment grasped, to the words expressing the rigours of the way and its dangers, and to those of the swamps to which he had finally fallen a victim. Gifted with the usual fancy of his race, as the meaning of the words dawned upon him, he imagined all manner of strange impossibilities, and was seized with a terror of the marsh.

Leaving the sepoy to the qualms of his self-created fear we will follow in the wake of the stranger, who by this time had been admitted within the fort, and ushered into the presence of the officer in charge. Of medium height and on the usual lines of the lithe frame of the eastern race his muscular frame was developed from the exertions common to the lot of warriors. Still young, his features were composed in a self-assured expression which gave him the appearance of possessing a wisdom not often revealed in one of his age; but notwithstanding those signs the flash of his eye showed that no matter which way his reason pointed, it was not always the course he took. Dressed in the usual fashion of th Moghul Court, his apparel bespoke a high standing there, the design of his personal ornaments and the decorations of the sword at his side telling of wealth. Over all his finery of accoutrement and dress dust and mud were thick, while his features were pale and haggard from hardship, yet from his general personal appearance, seeing that he was no common adventurer, and from something other—a presentiment of truth—rather than in the stranger himself, the Captain was drawn to give more than a casual attention to his tale. The Indian nobleman, as he was, told of how taking advantage of the usual liberties of a favoured courtier he had overheard on several occasions whisperings of a scheme for the destruction of the English in Bengal, between enemies of those traders at the Moghul Court, and emissaries of Dupleix, the Viceroy of the French in India. So far had they been successful in their plans that they had gained for their party the Raja Suraj-ud-Dowlah, who, at the time of his departure from Moorshedabad, was collecting an army of horse and foot.

"The danger is imminent," continued he; for, fired by the tales of the chief instigators of the plot, the easy influenced and cruel nature of Suraj-ud-Dowlah had risen in anger against all that was English. His main object was, however, the taking of Calcutta and its destruction, and while he thus expressed his projects openly amongst his courtiers, he likewise spoke of the severities to be meted out to its inhabitants.

"As a nobleman of the Moghul Empire," further added the stranger in melancholy tones: "I bear neither the English nor French much goodwill, therefore do not imagine I came with my tale to curry favour with you, or to injure any cause whatever the French may have in India. It is not for me to be explicit in this, but prepare for defence as you may against the fate threatening you and your people. Night and day have I travelled, and many difficulties and dangers overcome on the way, to fall after all a victim to the pestilence of the swamps around, but yet having fulfilled what I undertook." Concluding thus he withdrew and vanished into the mists without, whence he never emerged again.

* * * *

How much truth there may be in the foregoing is doubtful, but it is an historical fact that a catastrophe befel the English at Calcutta in 1756, and after the revenge of the English upon its Moghul perpetrators they were forced by events

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following to take upon themselves the cares of the Empire in India. It is said also that on what is now the "Hyde Park" of Calcutta the benighted native has heard the sound as of a horse struggling through marshy ground and the clanking of accoutrements on saddle. Some even go so far as to say they have seen the shadowy form of a horse and man. Be this as it may; in the draining of the swamps necessary to the forming of a maidan the skeletons of a man and horse were found. The buckles and other metal parts of the trappings of the steed were of silver but so much corroded by the action of the water that the figuring was destroyed, while nothing but the remains of the sword and the fittings of a scabbard remained of the man's accoutrements. Perhaps the tale as told has its origin, from the wild fancy of some romancer who wishes to give to Calcutta a Legendary interest of its own. There is no saying.

—:o:—

The Ninety-first.

—o—

A correspondent to the *Morning Post*, writing from Pretoria, in the course of his letter, says: "In my account of the work of Col. Benson's column very little was said about the work of the 1st Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the infantry regiment with the column. I take this opportunity of placing on record the fact that the mounted men speak in terms of the highest praise of the spirit in which the NINETY-FIRST co-operated. On one occasion they did a march of 45 miles stepping out cheerfully throughout the night, and continued next morning with only a short halt for breakfasts. Always trustworthy and ready, with such a regiment Col. Benson could set about his surprise attacks with his mounted troops in perfect confidence that his camp would be secure on his return."

—:o:—

A Highlander's Peroration.

—o—

At one time there was an Association or Sick Benefit Society in Dunblane managed by the working men of the town. The Society annually elected a Chairman from amongst its members, and an old Highlander, Duncan or "Dochy," was duly voted to the position, and being a very garrulous man, he took full opportunity of airing his English, which, to say the least, was rather mixed at times.

A member of the Society had shuffled off this mortal coil, and his case was under consideration at a meeting presided over by Dochy, who concluded a long and rambling speech in the following words:—

"You'se will all pe aware our old friend, Shames, has died of conjunction of the lungs; ant it gives me much pleasure to inform you'se that the place of entertainment will pe at Dunblane Shurch yard on Wednesday at 3 o'clock afternoon, P.M., where all enquiring friends, as the weedow informs me, will be thankfully received.

WHERE IS ALL THE GLORY?

Boast not to me of martial pomp
Or glorious field of battle,
Of valour done, or conflicts won,
Mid cannons' roar and rattle,
Go mark yon field of human strife,
Yon field of death so gory;
The victims groan, the dying moan,
And tell me where's the glory.

Can valour dry the tears of age?
Or succour from it borrow?
Can fame the orphan's lot assure?
Or soothe the widow's sorrow?
The grand romance of ancient war
Sounds well in song or story,
But what is fame to broken hearts?
Oh! where is all the glory?

Can conquest heal the harried heart
Of sorrow-stricken mother?
Or pay the cost of loved ones lost,
A husband or a brother?
In distant graves lie Britain's brave,
The flaxen haired and hoary,
Brittania mourns her slaughtered sons;
Say, where is all the glory?

—:o:—

A WAFT O' THE HEATHER.

Drafty to boxwallah from whom he has received a cake af soap.—Hoo much is that?

Boxwallah.—Six pice Sahib.

Drafty.—Ye'll get nae six pice frae me. A didna come oot wi' the last breeze ye ken, so here's twa annas and think yersel lucky.

Boxwallah.—Achcha Sahib, hum cushi.

—:o:—

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.
Colonel P. D. Trotter	33	0
Captain K. F. C. Marshall	8	0
„ P. D. McCandlish	15	0
„ A. Elphinston	8	0
„ R. B. Graham	8	0
„ D. J. Glasfurd	8	0
„ W. J. B. Tweedie	4	0
A. Bruce, Esq. (Pres., Glasgow Sutherland Association)	8	0
Lieutenant H. M. Thomson	8	0
Rev. D. Gillan	4	0
Lieutenant O. C. Herbert	7	0
„ A. J. H. Maclean	4	0
„ J. Kennedy	8	0
„ B. A. Harvey	4	0
„ L. G. Fenzi	4	0
„ J. B. Gillat	8	0
2nd Lieut. R. R. Forbes	4	0
„ „ R. D. Falconar Stewart ...	4	0
„ „ A. E. Kennedy	4	0
„ „ C. P. James	4	0
„ „ G. P. Sanders, 44th Gurkhas ...	4	0
Staff-Sergt. Mackenzie, M. W. S. ...	2	0
„ „ Houston, S. and T. Corps ...	2	0
Pioneer Sergt. Snowdon	1	8
Private Ross, "E" Company	2	0
Sergeant H. Kerr	5	0

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School for Scotch Soldiers' Children.

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A meeting in support of the East of Scotland branch of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association was held in Edinburgh on the 28th inst. Lieutenant-General Sir Archibald Hunter, commanding the Scottish District, presided, and it was reported that 6,443 persons had been assisted during the year, at a cost of £16,580. The donations and subscriptions received amounted to £19,294. At the request of Sir Archibald Hunter a letter was read from Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, who is president of the Association in Scotland, approving of an endeavour that is being made to draw the attention of the Government and of the public of Scotland to the demand for a school in Scotland for the sons of soldiers on a system similar to the Duke of York's School and the Royal Hibernian Military School. Such a scheme, Her Royal Highness wrote, if well carried out, would enormously aid the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association in Scotland in one of its most prominent objects. The demand for vacancies in the Duke of York's School was so great that it was very difficult to obtain nomination for a boy residing at so great a distance from London. The Council desired therefore to express to General Hunter how deeply conscious they were of the urgent and ever-increasing need there was for such a school in Scotland. It might be said with truth that the chief endeavour of the Association was to find employment for the soldiers' family, rather than to bestow money; but they ought also to do all that was possible to provide for the education and efficient training of the children, especially of a soldier who lost his life in the service of his country. So far the council had not found any great difficulty in arranging for the charge and education of the girls; but it had been found very difficult in Scotland to dispose of the boys in eleemosynary schools, homes, or asylums. There was also read a letter from the War Office to Sir Archibald Hunter, stating the Treasury agreed in a guarantee being made that, to the extent to which public subscriptions would not suffice for the maintenance and equipment of the school, the institution would be supported from public funds. The Treasury suggested, however, that in the first instance the establishment of the new school should not be fixed at a higher number than 300 boys. General Hunter observed that Scotland had got no such institution, and Scottish Regiments complained constantly that the sons of their men were drafted into the Irish or English Schools, and consequently their services were lost to Scottish Regiments. That had a deterring effect in many ways. The sons of soldiers thus carefully taught in schools became the very best material from which to recruit the non-commissioned ranks in Scottish regiments, and they were lost, enlisting either with the artillery, the Scots Guards, or English regiments. The idea was that at the end of the war the right time would have come to erect some memorial to the Scottish soldiers who had either been killed in battle or had died from disease in the country's cause. He placed unlimited faith in the generosity of the Scottish people and in their appreciation of the work done in the field by their own flesh and blood against their country's enemies. He was sanguine enough to hope that somebody might come forward and offer them a site free for the purpose. All that was required was that it should be fairly central and accessible, so that the parents might get to see their children without difficulty, and that it should be large enough to furnish recreation grounds for the boys. He hoped they would agree with him that it was a scheme which would appeal to the common-sense as well as to the hearts of the Scottish people.—*Broad Arrow.*

Ninety-third Calendar for August 1902.

93rd Sutherland Highlanders embodied at Inverness, 1800.

Sutherland News first issued, Dagshai, 1892.

1	S.	Embarked Troopship *Resistance*, Calcutta, for England, 1848.
2	M.	Aldershot for Windsor.
3	Tu.	
4	W.	Colours at present carried by the Battalion presented by Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland in the Queen's Park, Edinburgh, 1871; old colours carried through Mutiny Campaign sent to Dunrobin.
5	Th.	
6	F.	
7	S.	Outbreak of cholera at Jhansi, 1869; 11 deaths.
8	S.	
9	M.	*Belleisle* arrived Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, 1857; first intimation of outbreak of Indian Mutiny.
10	Tu.	Colonel H. W. Stisted, C.B., Major-General, 1864. F. W. Traill-Burroughs to command, 1864.
11	W.	Weedon to Portsmouth, 1852. Head-quarters arrived Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, *en route* for China, 1857. Destination altered to India owing to outbreak of Mutiny.
12	Th.	
13	F.	Sports of Tochi Field Force at Sheranni, 1897; won Tug-of-War and Khud race.
14	S.	
15	S.	Disembarked Plymouth from Cape of Good Hope, 1814.
16	M.	
17	Tu.	Darbar at Sheranni, Waziristan, 1897,
18	W.	
19	Th.	
20	F.	
21	S.	
22	S.	
23	M.	First column for Khaza Valley left Sheranni, 1897.
24	Tu.	
25	W.	
26	Th.	
27	F.	
28	S.	Return of Khaza Column to Sheranni, 1897.
29	S.	
30	M.	Arrived Leith from Stirling, 1848.
31	Tu.	Disembarked Leith from Canada, 1847. Embarked S. S. *Terrible*, Varna for Crimea, 1854.

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A rehearsal of the trooping of the colours took place on the Horse Guards Parade the other day, and afterwards the men taking part, to the number of 1,000, were sent on to the stands erected on the Parade for the Coronation sightseers.

At the given word of command the soldiers all seated themselves simultaneously, and the process having been repeated three times, they were permitted to leave the stands as they pleased. The whole body swarmed over the front sides, and backs of the structures, and the authorities came to the conclusion that the stands would certainly bear the strain that might be put upon them.

The military were then marched to Westminster Abbey, where the sitting accommodation of the stands and galleries was tested, and the results were again deemed satisfactory.

To what use the military will next be put it is impossible to guess, but we hope the line will be drawn somewhere.

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Regimental Gazette

Appointments.

To be Local Sergeant whilst employed as Regimental Instructor of Gymnastics :—No. 6295, Lance-Corporal W. Alder, "H" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals :—No. 7191, Private J. Mackenzie, "B" Company, dated 9th June 1902; No. 7192, Private C. Campbell, "B" Company, dated 9th June 1902; No. 6489, Private J. Young, "C" Company, dated 10th June 1902.

To be Acting Drummers :—No. 6741, Private F. McCabe, "C" Company; No. 4876, Private W. Malcolm, "E" Company.

Good Conduct Pay.

At 2d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 4712, Private J. Brown.

"B" Company.

No. 5253, Pte. R. McGibbon. | No. 4663, Pte. W. Glass.

"F" Company.

No. 5795, Pte. T. McGowan. | No. 4442, Pte. W. Rae.

"G" Company.

No. 5791, Private G. Lees.

At 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 5050, Private J. Britton.

"B" Company.

No. 7372, Pte. A. Paton. | No. 4343, Pte. J. Maclean.

"D" Company.

No. 5632, Private M. Spelman.

"E" Company.

No. 6254, Pte. C. Maclean. | No. 4876, Pte. W. Malcolm.
No. 6391, Lce.-Cpl. W. Melville.

"F" Company.

No. 5438, Private T. Brown.

"G" Company.

No. 4573, Private G. Murphy.

Certificates.

Granted 3rd class Certificates of Education, dated 4th June 1902 :—

No. 7617,	Private	M. Christie,	"B" Company.
„ 7176,	„	G. Monaghan,	"B" „
„ 7422,	„	R. Swan,	"B" „
„ 8196,	„	H. Cloy,	"F" „
„ 6272,	„	J. Leitch,	"G" „
„ 5269,	„	J. Skene,	"G" „
„ 8157,	Boy	L. A. Planner,	"H" „

Re-engagements.

To complete twenty-one years' service :—

No. 4019,	Private	T. Birkenshaw,	"E" Company.
„ 6133,	„	J. Robert	"G" „

Taken on Strength.

No. 6990, Private H. Leinster, from First Battalion, South Africa.—Posted to "B" Company.

Private William Ingram, transferred from 1st Dorset Regiment, with effect from 1st July 1902.—Posted to "D" Company.

Recruit Dugald Campbell, enlisted on 3rd June 1902.—Posted to "B" Company.

Struck off Strength.

Discharged at his own request on payment of £18 :—
No. 6312, Private R. C. Paton, "F" Company.

Number allotted.

The Number 8355 has been allotted to Private James Jack, "D" Company.

Change of Name.

No. 7822, Private J. Scobie assumes the name of John Stephen.

Rejoined from Home Furlough.

The undermentioned men having rejoined from Furlough at Home, their second period of Army Service in India reckons from the dates specified:—

12th April 1902 :—

No. 5225,	Private	W. A. Hastie,	"A" Company.
„ 3870,	„	J. M. Brown,	"C" „

30th April 1902 :—

No. 4712,	Private	J. Brown,	"A" Company.
„ 5507,	„	W. H. Reynolds,	"B" „
„ 4721,	„	T. Wylie,	"B" „
„ 5516,	Lce.-Cpl.	G. Anderson,	"C" „
„ 4369,	Bandsman	J. Dunlop,	"C" „
„ 4306,	Private	A. Graham,	"E" „
„ 5110,	„	J. Greig,	"E" „
„ 4168,	„	T. Mansfield,	"E" „
„ 5132,	Lce.-Cpl.	F. Wainwright,	"F" „

—:o:—

Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

MARRIAGES.

Dunlop-Moir—At Glasgow, on the 25th March 1902, by the Rev. J. Sinclair, United Free Church; Bandsman J. Dunlop, 93rd Highlanders, to Maggie Macintosh, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Edward Moir, Marine Engineer, Glasgow.

Wainwright-Stent—At the Parish Church, West Ham, on the 26th April 1902, by the Rev. E. Thomson; Lance-Corporal F. Wainwright, 93rd Highlanders, to Elizabeth Alice, eldest daughter of Mr. Harold Stent, West Ham.

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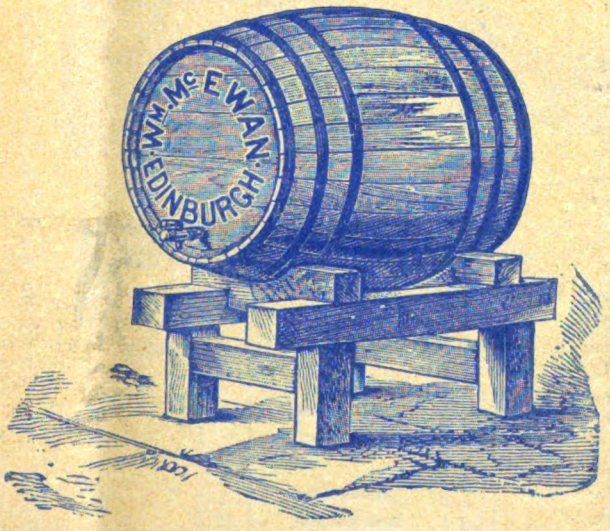

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AUGUST 1902.

The Thin Red Line.

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Vol. VI.

THE THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 4—Vol. VIII.] CALCUTTA—AUGUST 1902. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

The prevailing topic of interest during the month of July has been the new Drill Book of 1902 which reached us early in the month, and was at once brought into use. There are a few things which we are sorry to part with, such as the 'shoulder,' but on the whole, although we were quite contented with the old order of things, there is no doubt we shall eventually be equally satisfied when the new order becomes more familiar.

* * * *

Lieut.-Col. Campbell has at last availed himself of an opportunity for change of air, and left us on the 1st August for a couple of months in Kashmir. We wish him the fullest benefits to be derived from his leave.

* * * *

Major Paterson has taken over the command of the Regiment during the Colonel's absence.

* * * *

Lieut. A. J. H. Maclean returned early in the month from Kasauli feeling no ill effects from the Pasteur Treatment, but rather considerable benefit from three weeks in the hills.

Major Paterson has rejoined after his stay in Kashmir and Lieut. Harvey from a short leave in the hills, both looking much the better for their holiday. Mrs. Paterson wisely elected to stay in the hills for the present, but we hope to see her down in Calcutta again after the worst of the monsoon is over.

* * * *

Capt. and Mrs. Graham have rejoined headquarters from Darjeeling to share the pleasure of the rains in Calcutta with us.

* * * *

Latterly in the month the greatest interest has been centred in the result of the ties for the Indian Football Association Challenge Shield. The Royal Irish Rifles, the holders, were the only up-country team who entered and unfortunately failed to get through the first round, being beaten by Dalhousie by 3 goals to love. We had three rounds to go through, but our determination carried us safely over all opposition, and first Howrah, then the K. O. S. Borderers, and lastly Dalhousie fell before us. The superiority of the regimental team has been amply manifested at last and the splendid shield was escorted to our lines by the pipes and drums and the team shoulder high, the whole Battalion being ably assisted in the cheering by many hundreds of enthusiastic natives. It is a great treat to report so signal a success, and all the congratulations we can offer to the team will not eclipse the pleasure they must feel at having brought the standard of football to so high a pitch in the regiment, a fact that will often be recalled to their minds by the handsome and valuable gold medals of which each player is now the proud possessor. Within

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half-an-hour of the end of the match Major Paterson had received congratulatory letters from General Townley and the Rev. Mr. Saunders-Dyer. Accounts of the matches appear in our athletic columns.

The shield itself is particularly handsome, being very nearly 4 feet high by 3 feet broad, and must weigh close on 40 lbs. It is bronze, mounted on a brass back-ground, and enlivened by silver figures raised on the bronze and thirteen silver shields on the brass bearing the names of the winners for the last nine years, which are as follows:—

1893. The Royal Irish Regiment.
1894. The Royal Irish Regiment.
1895. The Royal Welsh Fusiliers.
1896. Calcutta Football Club.
1897. Dalhousie Football Club.
1898. 1st Gloucestershire Regiment.
1899. 2nd South Lancashire Regiment.
1900. Calcutta Football Club.
1901. The Royal Irish Rifles.

The winners for 1902 have now been decided although the name is not yet engraved, and this leaves three blank silver shields for the next three winners.

The main inscription runs "Indian Football Association Challenge Shield, Instituted 1893, Calcutta. Altogether it is a trophy we may well be proud to reckon among our regimental successes.

* * * *

We offer our congratulations to Major A. H. Middleton, 3rd Battalion, on his promotion from Honorary Major to a substantive majority. Received while on service it will doubtless be doubly welcome to that popular and much-esteemed officer.

* * * *

Captain R. B. Graham took over command of "C" Company again on return from leave, and Lieutenant Harvey the command of "H" Company when Captain Tweedie went on leave. There is a probability of Lieutenant Harvey's command of "H" Company becoming a permanency as Captain Tweedie expects to proceed home to the Depôt in place of Captain Bell, whose tenure of duty there expires shortly.

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THE GREATEST HONOUR.

—o—

"My faither's a seger," said a wee Scots Lassie.

"An' ma faither, too," said her playmate.

"Ah, but ma faither's a brave man. He's been in war, and he's got a hale gang o' medals. An' he's got the Victoria Cross. The Queen pinned it on him wi' her ain hand!" breathlessly said lassie number one.

"An' ma faither's braverer!" cried lassie number two. "He's been in dozens o' wars, and he's got gangs o' medals an' Victoria Crosses. An' he's got a bonnie wudden leg. An' (with a triumphant shriek) the Queen nailed it on him wi' her ain hand!"

The Union Jack and other Flags.

—o—

The British Newspapers have lately been full of warnings against flying the Union Jack for the Coronation festivities upside down; as it was frequently to be seen in the late Queen Victoria's Jubilee decorations, and indeed on all occasions of public rejoicings, not only in provincial towns all over the country, but quite as frequently in the capital itself; indeed, the writer has more than once seen even the Royal Standard upside down and outside in! But after the Coronation such a ridiculous mistake is not likely to occur again, for the King has given—as reported in the press—all whom it may concern to understand that, hereafter, the Royal Standard is to be treated as his personal flag and never flown unless He is Himself present or officially represented.

A very simple rule to remember with regard to the Union Jack, however unversed in heraldry any one may be, is:—"Broad white stripe uppermost, toward the flag-staff"—unless the flag is one of those "made in Germany" with which the country is flooded at present. The broad white stripe represents the cross of St. Andrew, and should fly next the flag-staff above the red diagonal stripe which represents the cross of St. Patrick; the narrow white stripe is simply a bordering.

A silly combination of colours was invented at the Jubilee of 1887, and is now always largely in evidence, owing to its being very cheap, no doubt,—namely, stripes of red, white and blue; for, horizontally they represent the Dutch Flag, and when hung vertically, they are like the French Flag.

In France, by the way, how seldom one sees in Street decorations anything else but the national tricolour, and how very tired one becomes of it! This exclusive use of it is due partly to foreign flags being so much more expensive,—for the French are a parsimonious race,—and partly to their overweening predilection for everything French.

With us again, we avoid all this weary sameness, not only because we have a diversity of flags of our own, but in all street decorations we fly the flags of all nations; for although we one and all believe that our own "Meteor Flag" is second to none, yet we willingly admit that the flags of other nations lend themselves also to decorative effect, and that *nothing* but Union Jacks would be almost as exasperatingly same as the exclusive display of the tricolour in France.

W. G. A.

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Military Education.

—o—

Among the numerous Committees appointed in consequence of the general upheaval of everything connected with the army not the least interesting are the proposals suggested for the better military education of those destined to be officers and of the present military officer as he is.

A Committee was appointed by Mr. Brodrick a short time ago with a view of ascertaining the delinquencies of the present system and proposing methods to obviate these. Their report was a sweeping condemnation of the system of education given to intending army officers and their technical training after being commissioned. Military witnesses of the highest rank and position in the army were examined before this Committee and their report deals with the matters referred to them under three headings :—

(*a*). The antecedent education of army candidates.
(*b*). Their intermediate education.
(*c*). The technical and professional training after joining.

In place of the old policy still employed by the Civil Service Commissioners, which was to try and draw boys straight from the public schools, shaping the examinations to suit the curriculum of these schools more or less, the Committee laid down a new syllabus for the entrance examinations, the schools being left to adopt their teaching to it. Thus the examination is to be the test of the thoroughness of a sound general education, and one examination will include entrance tests for Woolwich, Sandhurst, the Militia and the Yeomanry.

The broad and cultured lines of University training being obviously invaluable to army officers there is no reason why they should not eventually become the main source of supply for the army and possibly enable the Government at some future date to dispense with the State-aided establishments of Woolwich and Sandhurst.

At Woolwich the Committee were on the whole satisfied, the cadets being well taught on sound principles. But at Sandhurst their remarks are the converse, and they proposed drastic remedies. The officers should carry out the drill and practical training in addition to their other duties, instead of it being done as now by the Staff-Sergeants.

With Part III of their report there are also great changes suggested. They announced that with regimental officers the main concern in life was to get a maximum amount of amusement with a minimum amount of work, and discovered a marked lack of technical knowledge and skill among the junior officers. This was ascribed not so much to the individual as to the system, and the Committee recommend a reorganization of the method of promotion, which was that it should be by merit rather than by seniority to be carried out by a system of surprise examinations. What will be the upshot of this report time alone will show, and criticism would be out of place.

——: o :——

Sergeants' Mess Notes.

—o—

Congratulations to Sergeant-Major Robertson on his promotion to the Sergeant-Majorship of the 4th Battalion, also to Quarter-Master-Sergeant Weller and Colour Sergeants Ewan and Arnott, on receiving their respective steps in the promotion ladder. Sergeants Rutherford and Hiscock have each held Lance rank for a very long time, and we are pleased to be able to congratulate them also on their promotion. We have also to welcome a new member to the mess in Lance-Sergeant Dick Glass, and take advantage of this opportunity to congratulate him on obtaining an acting schoolmaster's certificate. We have also to welcome Sergeant Gurney back to our brotherhood again, the happy possessor of a Roorkee Military Surveyor's certificate with its attendant prize in the shape of Rs. 5 per mensem extra pay.

Colour-Sergeant Chaplin, who went home on furlough a few months ago, has decided to remain at home, and has been appointed an Instructor to the 7th Volunteer Battalion. "Joe" served continuously with the Battalion for seventeen years, and one will find it hard to dis-associate his well-known face from the Sergeants' mess of the ninety-third. We wish him the best of luck in his new appointment.

July has been a fairly quiet month in the mess, the usual fortnightly dances being the only breaks in our otherwise monotonous every-day life. The dances continue to be exceptionally well attended, and are in every way a decided success. The Warrant Officers and Staff-Sergeants' Club invited all members of the mess to a musical "At Home" a few nights ago, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The new drill and rumours of a shift after the Delhi Darbar is absorbing the interest of the members at present, and until the former is mastered and the latter is settled—well we won't be contented and happy.

——: o :——

Jalapahar Notes.

—o—

Another concert which proved as successful as our last took place in the Theatre on the 8th July, and under the able guidance of Sergeant-Major Niblett of the Depôt. The combination of tableaux with songs and a farce provided

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outlets for various forms of talent and helped to suit the tastes of every one of the audience. Privates Walsh and Burke were both excellent, and were loudly applauded in each of their songs.

The farce, entitled borrowed Plumes, kept the house in a continuous state of merriment from beginning to end, and brought a very successful evening to a fitting close.

——: o :——

Home and Depot Notes.

—o—

After the celebrations had been prepared on such a lavish scale, it came as a severe disappointment to all, the news that the King was so ill as to necessitate the postponement of the Coronation. By orders of Colonel Hunt a large supply of fireworks had been procured and arrangements made for illuminating the Castle on a large scale. The troops were to have holidays from the Thursday to the Monday, and the Sergeants had sent out invitations for a garden party, but it is hoped that the King will soon be sufficiently well to allow of the rejoicings being gone on with.

Although peace has been declared, the 91st are not expected home for some considerable time, and a draft is being prepared in the 8th Prov. Battn. to allow of more time-expired men being sent home.

The party sent from Africa for the Coronation were sent to the Depôt, and as they are all time-expired, they were at once discharged. Discharge by purchase is now allowable, and the Reserve is to be opened by the 30th July.

Lieut. Macpherson has taken over his duties at Depôt, and Lt.-Col. Wolrige Gordon is expected to arrive for duty soon, as he is at present in London.

The 3rd Battn. is expected home in October, and parties of Reservists and time-expired men are arriving every day.

* * * *

Second Lieut. Lord G. Dundas has been posted to the 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

* * * *

A marriage has been arranged between Captain Fraser Newall, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and Margaret Muriel, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs Charles Lyle.

* * * *

War Office orders have been issued to the effect that in future a copy of the King's Regulations and Orders for the army are to be kept in all Guard Rooms—a splendid opening for the Barrackroom lawyer who will now be able to while away a few weary hours between his turns of sentry-go.

* * * *

A soldier, not above the rank of sergeant, may be employed as a chiropodist in each infantry battalion, provided he has undergone a course of instruction for one month, and obtained a certificate of proficiency in chiropody.

* * * *

Major F. M. Aitken, late 2nd Bn., has joined at Aldershot, on appointment as second-in-command of the 5th Royal Garrison Regiment.

* * * *

Lieutenant A. L. C. Clarke, 1st Battalion, now serving on the Hythe Musketry Staff, has secured a place in the Army Sixty for 1902.

* * * *

The following is from an Airdrie paper:—

DEATH OF A COATBRIDGE SOUTH AFRICAN SOLDIER.

We regret to announce the death of John Brand, which took place at his residence, 107D, Main Street, Coatbridge, on Thursday, after ten days' illness, his trouble being pneumonia. Deceased was only 34 years of age. He served two years in China and five years in India with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and was through all the principal engagements in connection with the South African War, and escaped without the slightest injury. He returned to Coatbridge exactly a year ago and prior to his death was on the eve of his marriage. Deceased was well-known and highly respected in Coatbridge; indeed, the same remark applies to the Brand family. Deceased was an enthusiastic Good Templar, and on leaving India was presented with a beautiful address worked in silk from the members of the "Pride of Sutherland," Nowshera, India Lodge, No. 112, in which Lodge he held the Office of Past Chief Templar. At one time deceased was connected with the "Iron Lodge," but at the time of his death he was a member of the "Perseverance" Lodge, No. 625. The funeral will take place this afternoon to the Clarkston Churchyard, Airdrie, and the members of the "Perseverance" Lodge will follow the remains of their late Brother to their last resting place.

* * * *

A return just issued by the War Office shows that the South African War reduced the British military forces by 1,072 officers and 20,870 men who died in South Africa, 105 men returned as missing and prisoners, eight officers and 500 men who died after having been invalided home, and 5,879 men who left the Service as unfit after being sent home as invalids The total reduction is therefore 28,434. The casualties reported from time to time throughout the war make a total of 97,477. The difference between this number and the total given above is due to the fact that the majority of cases reported were those of men who afterwards returned to duty.

——: o :——

SCENE.—On Board a hired transport from South Africa—Orderly Officer going his rounds.

Corporal of the Guard to Sentry on Hurricane Deck give over your orders.

SENTRY (a little excited):—"Allow no man to smoke with an empty pipe. In case of any one falling overboard, throw out a life boat."—Hurried departure of orderly officer and arrest of sentry on a charge of insubordination.

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A Bad Bargain.

—o—

Of the various abilities reposing in the heads protected from the sun by the helmets of the 10th Royal Foot Dragoons, stationed, of course, at any other place than Calcutta, none were so marked as those possessed by Private Peter Gruise. Being a private of such Foot Dragoons this Peter or "Pate," like his comrades, wore the kilt, exposing thereby a pair of affairs with which a couple of telegraph wires were muscular constructions in comparison; and stout was a bamboo pole when placed—he and it—side by side. Over and above his notorious greyhound appearance there were other notable features connected with his physique which we will however pass over for those of his physiognomy.

A nose of noble proportions was, if possible, the most remarkable of them all; and corresponding in width and depth with this facial promontory was stretched and sunk the orifice in use as a mouth. From hearsay we have had it, that one day he in an unguarded moment was caught smiling, in which contortion it is said his ears had disappeared, being included in the gap which seemed to include every thing above his shoulders. In addition to this (malice, we are afraid, prompted the addition) he has been seen to yawn and in such a way that it revealed so much of him, as to show up the past almost to the day of his origin. These are but tales, and as tales go in a barrack-room are not of any great importance. Nose and mouth we have mentioned, a word anent the eyes of our "Pate". Of a steel grey shade, and set in sockets such that he was able to look round corners with them, and indeed a half dozen ways at once, they were in fact quite acrobatic in their movements, and would, if he was angered, blaze like twin "Heclas". As a revelation of the abilities we have remarked as being possessed by Peter no other feature seemed so happy as his eyes. Crafty and shrewd were they and as cold to the look as a bottle of iced lemon to the taste. However, now and then we have caught a somethimg of an expression indicative of a failing in his usual mental level, and which, I am led to believe, is what is called "softness" from the following incident in the army life of Peter.

Ere commencing on the telling of our tale a few remarks on the antecedents of Pate would not, we think, come amiss. When he joined the 2nd Battalion of Foot Dragoons in India he was an old soldier wearing on for being time-expired with three months' service. Everyone imagined from his personal appearance that he would be a fit butt for their pranks, in which, however, they made a great mistake—for, not attempting to retaliate in the usual manner of butts wishing to assert themselves as good as their fellows he undisturbed allowed affairs to proceed until he thought his time had come for returning all he had so stoically received. His plans prospered. In an engagement with one of his tormentors he "dusted" him over for ten rupees on the "field of catch the ten". It was an honest piece of roguery and so well managed that no one could say ought against it. Again and again in this fashion did he succeed, until after a month or two he found himself—so he thought in his own way—getting level with his oppressors. Having thus as it were by a superior faculty of making money acquired a certain amount of respect amongst us, he now and then made one of the group supposed to be the "cocks" of ———— Troop. In this intercourse we got to know of where he hailed from, but at first it was rather hard for us to draw this from him. We knew he came from the British Isles, but the particular kingdom honored by his production we were at a loss to spot, "Ireland?" "No, 'twas not there." England? No! "Scotland?" "No." "The Principality of Wales?" No! "Then where is it: Is it the kingdom of Heaven?" "Fin' out" was all he would say; but we did "fin' out." He hailed from Fife, the kingdom of Fife. This discovery somewhat affected our intercourse with him, as the characteristics supposed to be possessed by a Fifer are unappreciated by us, who are, if anything, too free with our pence. Peter rather somehow encouraged the distance we kept from him, and more and more, as this became greater, did he draw within himself; only now and then coming into demand as may be some of us wished a duty performed. The man for this was "Pate", as obliging was he always when his palm was crossed with silver. Of the many of Pate's clients, none were more often obliged to him than was a swagger of a chap nick-named Gentleman George. What claims George possessed for such a sobriquet we could never clearly understand. Airs certainly he gave himself, and in a half and half sort of a fashion encouraged the telling of certain fables connected with his civilian antecedents. It was said that he had been apprenticed to a Glasgow writer, and that his father was a minister, and that in his father's congregation there were some big wigs who were intending to use their influence for the furtherance of Georgie in the army. Georgie too now and then darkly hinted at remittances received

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by him from home. To sustain his pretensions to a gentleman adventurer he pretended to loathe guards and picquets and fatigues such as are met with in army life, and rather than do them he had it known that he would pay nobly for their being done for him Peter and Georgie then, though at the opposite poles of troop interest, were often attracted to each other because of this dislike to doing guards on the one side, and on the other, the canny Fifeshire spirit of earning an extra penny at odd times. Many a penny too, no doubt, Peter had from George in these transactions previous to the 10th's arrival in Calcutta. Having arrived however, and settled down, the constant demands on Peter for doing extra duties began to tell on him, and he at all costs resolved to have his freedom. How he at first intended to obtain this is not known; but how he did was, we are afraid, far distant from his real intentions. One of Pate's nature might to reach an aim be heedless of pain and disappointment given to others, but never would they incur such themselves for the sake of attaining it. Therefore what happened on the way to obtain his freedom was all a mistake, and as we remarked before was revealed sometimes by his eye, was all due to a softness.

Now George—this gentleman—had, what is known as "neck," and a great amount of it. Such mention of a part of his anatomy means that he was not backward in pushing himself forward. Partly because of this assurance then, and partly, I dare say, because he was not exactly ugly, George, soon after his arival in Calcutta, had become acquainted with some of the tother sex. Who and what they were does not affect us, but be it told he was constant in his attendance, and was frequently obliged to Peter for little favours paid for in coin. This afternoon then our gentleman had prepared himself with his usual care for a night out—when alas—"5—6 Pte. W.—Guard to-morrow" put a damper on his spirits Guard mounting being early in the morning he could not, if intending to do his own duty, think of having his night out. Taking stock of his means he found at the most he could spare four rupees as a bribe. But who would he bribe? No other, of course, than Peter. The preliminaries settled in regard to the price to be paid. Peter had his four rupees and promised to perform the duty for Georgie.

Whether elated at having double his usual fee, or tempted with the thought of disappointing his client, Peter was seen at 6 P.M. in the canteen.

Not often was he one of the congregation of those who came here nightly to worship the god Bacchus. However, as the night wore on, it could be seen that he intended to make reparations for his regular attendance and by 8-30 Pate was roaring "foo." By nine he was speechless, and on being assisted by two High Priests of Bacchus, up the two or three flights of stairs to his barrack-room, he swore an awful Fifeshire oath, and said that they were leading him down—down—down to the dungeons where were kept the rooti and preserved "tattis," and where lived scorpions, centipedes and "jennies wi' the hunner feet." At length having placed him in his cot, Pate, still of the same opinion, *i.e.*, that he had been taken down instead of up, arose, and went, what was in his opinion up, but in reality down stairs to sleep on the cold flags of the courtway beneath. By and bye The R. P. found him here, and placed him, in case he might have colic after lying so long on the ground, in the guard room. What remorse might have troubled Peter on awaking in the morning has not been chronicled, but this much has been noticed that on the morning after his 24 hours' grace he was seen to smile, on his way from the "Green Table," a smile in which glittered the sheen of a 7/6, and gloomed here and there like clouds in a frosty sky a 7 days' C. B. Following fast in his steps came "Gentleman George" with the combined load of 14 days' pack drill on his mind and bending beneath the weight of his accumulated wrongs he passed as a half starched rag might have moved. Absent off "Guard Mounting," etc., had been the crime of Georgie and his punishment so to speak 14 days' C. B., but in reality it meant much more than this to him. At present no more we have to say of Pate and George. They have finished long ago their punishment drill, and long ago has Pate's 7/6 been paid. In fact so long ago is it that some question their ever having been in the army, and which opinion we are very much inclined to think is correct, as those who told us the tale intended, no doubt, to force upon us a moral, and for the sake of such, perhaps; invented Pate and George. However, for this moral have we been searching since the year that Adam first arrayed himself in fig-leaves and have not as yet discovered it.

—:o:—

The fifteen decisive battles of the world were, according to Sir Edward Creasy, (1) Marathon, B.C. 490; (2) Syracuse, B.C. 413; (3) Arbela, B.C. 331; (4) Metaurus, B.C. 207; (5) the victory of Arminius over the Romans under Varus, A.D. 9; (6) Chalons, 451; (7) Tours, 732; (8) Hastings, 1066; (9) Orleans, 1429; (10) the defeat of the Spanish Armada, 1588; (11) Blenheim, 1704; (12) Pultowa, 1709; (13) Saratoga, 1777; (14) Valmy, 1792; and (15) Waterloo, 1815.

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The Coming of the Twins.

—o—

They appeared before me one April morning, hand in hand, each sucking an inconveniently large and obtrusively ordoriferous peppermint, given him, doubtless, by a fond mother, as an inducement to set forth on school's rough way.

I was seated at my desk, engrossed in the revision of some copybooks, when a commotion in the porch attracted my attention and a stage whisper fell on my ears:—"O! it's the twins."

Twins were endemic in Kirkdale; the school already boasted four pairs, so the fact of twins making a first appearance there was not in itself deserving of particular note. In this case, however, the prefixed definite article was significant.

The twins par excellence were the youngest members of a numerous family who dwelt in a diminutive cottage on the moor. Their father, ostensibly a mole-catcher, was in reality an expert poacher, and their welcome into this world had not been, on his part, characterised by undue warmth. His wife was a woman of distinct genius—a genius that found ample scope in turning out a most presentable troop of children, and keeping them regularly at school, despite their father's rather erratic mode of life.

For some time the twins had conversed in a tongue they alone understood, and this fact, coupled with the long distance, they had to traverse, delayed the commencement of their school career by a year or two. When they came to me they had passed their seventh birthday, but in all that appertained to study, they were yet very babes.

Not soon shall I forget my first glimpse of them. Both were clad in garments that were serving their second wearers, if not their third. He who entered the room first wore what had whilom been a Norfolk jacket, but it had been adapted to his requirements by the simple process of cutting a strip from one side, and shortening the skirt. Consequently, the buttons ran down one side, close under the armpit, and the back had been gathered into a plait which bore a marked resemblance to a pony's close cropped mane. The nether garments had undergone similar treatment, save that in their case the buttons ran down the opposite sides, and the legs had been turned up and sewn round above the knee. The feet were clad in thick red worsted socks, and encased in heavy soled clogs, whose toes were resplendent with polished copper.

The neck was encircled by a broad celluloid collar, sewn to the jacket behind, but the ends had lost their bearings, and projected defiantly from under the chin, one carrying an enormous brass stud, which had evidently once formed part of a horse's harness. The head of coal black hair, unkempt and straggling, was surmounted by a cap of ample proportions, rather torn as to the lining, and bearing evident marks of having fulfilled functions which could hardly be termed normal.

Twin the second was in most respects a replica of his brother. In his attire a remodelled greatcoat of stout pilot blue took the place of the converted Norfolk. It reached his knees, and so concealed the method whereby the trouser legs had been abbreviated.

Both had round, chubby faces, and large round eyes of the darkest brown. They were strikingly like one another—so much so that it was their favourite diversion to exchange garments and confuse their elders.

I gazed at the apparition and awaited developments. The pair stood a full minute motionless, awestruck, seemingly, by the immensity of the room in which they found themselves. (It can hold fifty at a pinch). They then set about a deliberate survey of their surroundings, as far as was possible, by moving their eyes alone, for no other movement was perceptible. Having in the course of their survey caught sight of me, they joined hands and slowly advanced towards my desk.

At three yards' distance they paused, and the one who had first entered the room looked me over from head to foot, then gazed on his brother, and bringing his eyes once more to bear on myself, vouchsafed, in a casual tone, the information, "That ane's Sandy."

Sandy, hearing himself referred to, evidently deemed it correct to take his part in the conversation, for he nodded his head in an affirmative fashion, and confirmed his brother's statement with a lusty shout, "Aye, an' that ane's Aundra."

Whereupon their faces rippled into a smile of complacent good humour, and the sucking of the peppermints, which had been for a time in abeyance, was resumed with renewed vigour.

I had not yet uttered a single word, but I now turned towards Sandy and ask him to tell me his name. The reply rather startled me. "Dod! man, isna he just dune tellin' ye that I'm Sandy? Are ye a wee thing dull o' heerin'?" Then, seeing that I seemed rather taken aback, and out of the native goodness of his heart desiring to relieve the strain of the situation by giving a turn to the conversation, he dived into the pocket of his jacket and produced a bright red cotton handkerchief, wherewith he began to wipe his forehead, at the same time remarking, "I'm terrible warm!"

At this point an older member of the family appeared, and from him I obtained some facts

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regarding the exact names and age of the pair. The twins meanwhile retired slowly towards the door and passed into the porch, where they were immediately surrounded by an admiring and interested group of older children. The frequent bursts of laughter which punctuated the conversation led me to infer that the twins were affording surpassing pleasure to their audience.

Half-past nine had come, and I set about summoning my little band of disciples. The finances of the establishment did not justify the possession of a school bell, but I had in some manner become possessed of a whistle —still bearing the stamp of a Tramway Company. Whether it was honestly come by is no matter here, but it served its purpose, and at the first blast my handful of children ranged themselves in their various classes along the wall, that their entrance might have a semblance of military order.

This manœuvre was entirely to the liking of the twins, who marched to the head of the highest class, Sandy leading the way with the exhortation, "Come awa' Aundra, my man! they're gaun tae play at sodgers."

The rest entered into the spirit of the joke, and permitted the recruits to lead the way. Thus the pair entered on their chequered school career.

During the opening prayer they preserved a decorous silence, but no sooner had the "Amen" been said, however than a voice like that of a pilot was heard, "Look, Sandy! see the wee cuddy wi' a foal," and the pair dashed across the room to inspect their asinine acquaintance.

I considered the time had come for impressing on them the fact that they had now come to school, and were no longer at liberty to obey the impulse of the passing moment. The difficulty lay in how to set about my task. One thing I felt was advisable—an interview as private as circumstances permitted.

I conducted them to the very front of the room, and set the others to learn some spelling hoping that, in the murmur inseparable from the task, our colloquy would escape those not concerned. Seating myself, beside the pair, I enquired of the nearer twin whether he was aware of who I was. "Ken ye! fine I ken ye. Ye're the maister, an' ye hae a muckle black dowg." [Subdued titter from behind, where the murmur sank to the merest whisper]. I found that this mode of expression was characteristic of Andrew. He rarely answered a question without making an addendum of his own. Sandy, on the other hand, rarely answered the question at all. To him I addressed my next query. "Where do you come from?" The choice of the topic was unfortunate. It evidently called up visions of a freedom left behind, for Sandy deigned no reply, but turned to his brother "Come awa' hame. Aundra; I dinna like the look o' this place." [Loud laughter from the rear].

I made one more effort. Without addressing myself directly to either, I continued—"Who sent you to school?" Andrew was spokesman: "My father chased us doon the road. He has four new ferrets." "Did he tell you you were to be good boys?" "Na!" "What did he say to you?"

"He said we was a pair o' richt ill callants, and it was time we came here tae get oor licks. Are we gaun to get oor licks?" And the twain stood expectant, their faces betraying the shade of curiosity which is evoked when the affair at issue is of trivial moment. What recked they a "licking" more or less?

I straightway gave up all attempt at making a direct impression, deciding to leave the subjugation of the unpromising material to the impartial schoolmaster of us all—Father Time.

TIMOTHY.

—:o:—

Audy Wauchope and his Hielan' men.

—o—

Now the war is over, the troops will soon be hame,
The heroes o' the story, the winners o' the game;
But ne'er a ship will sail the seas tae bring us hame again,
The gallant Audy Wauchope, and Wauchope's Hielan' men.

The halest lads and bravest that ever buckled belt,
They lie in slaughtered hundreds beneath the rolling veldt
Wi' desert stillness roon' them, far, far frae frien' an' ken
Where mightly shines the Southern cross, there sleep oor Hielan' men.

Lang, Lang will mony a Scottish home be sad and sair for them,
The fairest flower o' Scotland is broken frae the stem.
There' dule within the Castle ha' an' wailing doon the glen,
And greeting in the wee bit hoose for Wauchope and his men.

Oh, was it a' a blunder or were oor lads betrayed,
We'd een ha' heard the last o't, or seen the piper paid,
But let us pay the score that may, and pay it ower again,
It widna bring back Wauchope, wi' Wauchope's Hielan' men.

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Athletics.

—o—

FOOTBALL.

I. F. A Shield Competition.

Ninety-third vs. *Sova Bazar—Played on 18th July.*—The struggle for the magnificent trophy known as the Indian Football Association Shield commenced with a match with the premier native team. The game was played on the Sova Bazaar ground and was witnessed by about 4,000 spectators. The Babus were no match for any strong military team and were easily disposed of to the tune of six goals to love. Baker played in place of Scott at back and Corporal Wilson proved a good substitute for Auchinvole at half.

Ninety-third vs. *Howrah—Played on 27th July.*—Our respected opponents from the other side of the Hooghly engaged the team in the second round and were minus the services of one or two of their regular players, otherwise the game would not have been so one-sided. The Ninety-third team had it all their own way right throughout the match, but somehow or other their efforts in front of goal were not in keeping with the remainder of the play. Montgomery scored in the first half, and after the interval Houston scored another from a penalty, and Montgomery added a third from a scrimmage in front of goal. *Result—Ninety-third, 3 goals; Howrah, 0.*

Ninety-third vs. *K. O. S. B's—Played on 30th July.*—After the crushing defeat received by the K. O S. B's in the second league match it was expected that the Borderers would strain every nerve to avenge themselves on our team in this match, the semi-final of the competition, but such hopes, if they had any, were doomed to meet with disappointment as they had to retire after an even more overwhelming defeat than they sustained in the league encounter. The Ninety-third team was in excellent form and played a brilliant combination game. Houston opened the scoring within five minutes of the start, and this was followed soon after by Pollock with a second goal. The Borderers now had a look in for a very brief interval and managed to secure a corner. This advantage was of little use to the Borderers, and McGowan getting possession ran the ball down from the centre of the field and scored magnificently. The second half was a repetition of the first and to Montgomery, who was in splendid form, belongs the credit of adding another three goals. *Result—Ninety-third, 6 goals; K. O. S. B's, 0.*

The Final.

Ninety-third vs. *Dalhousie—Played on 2nd August.*—The C. F. C. ground was selected for this match, and it was well that such was the case as the weather, which plays a very important part in outdoor events of consequence, was not what it might have been. According to the scribes of our local contemporaries the conditions favoured the Ninety-third team to an extraordinary degree, the heavy, muddy ground "favouring the bigger and heavier Scots." The match excited enormous interest and was witnessed by somewhere about 20,000 spectators, about 4,000 of whom were within the enclosure, admittance to which was secured by payment of a small fee, which went to charity. The Band of the Regiment was in attendance, and played prior to the commencement of the match and during the interval. Our opponents, the Dalhousie team, had previously distinguished themselves by their victory over last year's winners, the Royal Irish Rifles, and were "previous holders" of the shield, an honour which they secured in 1897. The game was a good one, although in the end the civilians had to acknowledge the superiority of the Ninety-third, who forced them to admit defeat by three goals to love. Maywood, who was taken in for Coventry, who had managed to hurt his ankles, proved an excellent substitute in goal, and saved at least one dangerous situation. At the conclusion of the game Mrs. H S Ashton presented the shield to McKenzie, Captain of the Ninety-third team, and each player received a gold medal; the runners up being presented with silver badges.

The teams lined up in the following manner:—

93rd Highlanders.

Maywood.
Silcock. Wallace.
Wilson McGowan McLean.
Pollock. McKenzie. Houston. Montgomery. Hogg.

O

Echlin. Alexander. Stewart. Ratcliffe. Rosser.
Wemyss. Brown. Walker.
Stimson. Margarett.
Peake.

Dalhousie F. C.

Play during the first few minutes of the game was very even, and then a move was made to the Dalhousie end, but McKenzie headed out. The Dalhousie then attacked, but their efforts came to nought. Shortly after this the civilians

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had another look-in and two corners fell to them, which they took full advantage of and made things hum around Maywood for a time. After the second corner Maywood was tested to his utmost capacity and saved splendidly. This was the only great effort of the civilians, and for the remainder of the first half play was principally in their territory. Try as they would however, our forwards could make no impression on Peake, who is really a splendid goalkeeper, and so the whistle went for half-time with no scoring having taken place.

Immediately after the re-start the Ninety-third forwards ran the ball up to their opponents' end, and although the civilians got away once or twice, play from now until the call of time was mostly in the vicinity of the Dalhousie goal. A smart pass by Pollock from the wing to Houston gave the much-desired opportunity, and amidst a scene of tremendous applause from the military element present Houston beat Peake with a swift low shot. A few minutes later Hogg secured another point, and the final issue was then placed beyond doubt. Some more defensive play on the part of Dalhousie then followed, and although Peake was playing a magnificent game, Houston again beat the Dalhousie custodian. Dalhousie were still defending, when a hard fought game came to an end.

After the close of the proceedings, McKenzie and the remainder of his team were shouldered and carried off in triumph to the Fort, headed by the pipes and drums, and to the inspiriting tune of Scotland the Brave.

The following is the full score of the competition, in which it will be seen that the team has emerged from the contest with considerable credit, establishing a record in the competition, having scored eighteen goals in 4 matches and not given away a single point:—

First Round.

93rd Highlanders beat Sova Bazar	...	6—0
K. O. S. B. beat Calcutta F. C.	...	4—3
79th R. G. A. beat Chinsurah	...	5—0
Dalhousie F. C. beat Rangers	...	3—0
Hare Sporting beat Town Club	...	3—0

Second Round.

93rd Highlanders beat Howrah United	...	3—0
Dalhousie beat Royal Irish Rifles	...	2—1
K. O. S. B. *vs.* Hare Sporting		(scratched)
79th R. G. A. *vs.* South Lancashire		(scratched)

Semi-Finals.

93rd Highlanders beat K. O. S. B.	...	6—0
Dalhousie F. C. beat 79th R. G. A.	...	5—0

Final.

93rd Highlanders beat Dalhousie F. C.	...	3—0

Swimming Notes.

A water polo match took place on the 4th July between selected teams from the 79th R. G. A. (late champions of Malta) and the Ninety-Third. The gunners, however, were no match for our team, and had to retire the losers by six goals to love.

To test the capabilities of the water polo team a trial of strength was arranged to take place with the Calcutta Swimming Club and the result was highly satisfactory, and should be the means of making the team put forth still greater efforts to perfect themselves in the natatory art.

The first event was a team race between four men of the Ninety-Third and four from the Calcutta Swimming Club, each of whom swam two lengths and gave a very excellent display. Calcutta eventually won with the very narrow margin of one second on the gross time. The teams and times are as follows:—

NINETY-THIRD.—Campbell, 55 secs.; Ure, 53 secs.; Seton, 48 secs.; and Pollock, 50 secs. Gross time, 3 min. 26 secs. for the eight lengths.

CALCUTTA S. C.—Harnack, 56 secs.; Rushton, 53 secs.; Seaton, 43 secs.; and Sherman, 47 secs. Gross time, 3 mins 25 secs.

After a few minutes' interval the water polo match commenced, Calcutta scored in the first half from Seaton and the Ninety-Third in the second half from Seton, and a very good match ended in a draw of one goal each. Altogether the team made a very creditable show, and the result ought to encourage them to continue training. The team which represented the Ninety-Third was the following:—*Goal*, Campbell; *backs*, Black and Kay; *half-back*, Wright; *forwards*, Seton, Pollock and Ure.

Football in Kanikhet.

A match arranged between representatives of Scotland and England took place on the 25th of July on the Kumpoor Ground, Scotland being represented chiefly by the 93rd, of whom ten took the field with one of the K. O. S. Borderers.

The weather was perfect and the ground in excellent condition, and the game created great interest, about two thousand spectators being present. The kick-off took place at 5.30 P.M., Scotland having lost the toss, and the ball was soon carried through to their backs who were prepared and sent it well ahead.

The forwards followed up their advantage on the left wing, but were unsuccessful and a kick out from behind was all the result. Play now became very fast and each goal-keeper was attacked in turn, till after fifteen minutes' play England secured the first goal by a very fine hard shot. On the kick-off the right wing of the North countrymen took possession of the ball and caused great excitement by a magnificent piece of passing, but England's back cleared well. A lot of give and take play in mid-field eventually ended in Scotland's left bursting away and a good centre resulted in a scrimmage before England's goal, which was decided amid great cheering by a goal for Scotland. Half time sounded immediately afterwards leaving the score at one goal each.

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After a ten minutes' interval play was resumed, and although nothing further was scored, both sides played a good game to the last. Shortly after half time Lieut. Forbes had a nasty fall and was taken off the field leaving the Scotchmen only ten men, but as the game showed signs of going badly, he rejoined amid great cheering and played to the finish.

The sides were evenly matched, and the game was the best we have had up here.

In a match arranged between the 93rd (No 1 section) and the Border Regiment (No. 6 section) and played on the Sutherland Recreation Ground on the 30th June, a very even game was witnessed the shooting of the 93rd being so erratic as to neutralize what would otherwise have been a distinct superiority. The Borders won the toss and commenced with the sun at their backs, but they did not make enough of their advantage and the 93rd had the best of it, and would have scored oftener if their shooting had been better. As it was Pryde sent in a soft shot, which the opponents' goal should have saved had he not left it to the backs, and at half time the game stood at one goal to nil. Restarting both sides had their share of the game for the first ten minutes, after which the Borders scored from a corner. This put No. 1 section on their mettle who did their best to regain the lead and kept their opponents' defence well engaged, but their shooting spoilt them and time was called with score still at one goal each.

SOUTH AFRICAN DRAFTS.

K. O. S. Borderers vs. 93rd—Played on the Kumpoor ground on the 28th June.—The 25th winning the toss kicked off and at once found their way down to the 93rd goal, but were unsuccessful in scoring owing to the good defence. Play then was transferred to the other end and their defence was severely tried by Millar and Pryde, although our forwards failed to break through. Shortly before half time, however, they got away again and Lockhart getting possession beat the 25th goal-keeper with a fine shot. In the second half the game was well contested and both sides looked like scoring several times, but the defence at each end were successful until just before time the 25th forwards made a determined rush and managed to break through. Although both teams now tried hard to get the lead there was no further scoring and the whistle stopped the game at a draw one goal each.

Our tie in the five-a-side tournament took place on the Sutherland Recreation Ground on the 6th July against the South Staffords. They won the toss and kicked off at 10-30, and for a short time made great but unavailing efforts to break through our defence. Then the tide turned and the excellent combination of our forwards ended in Lockhart scoring the first goal. Then the opponents took charge and did not stop till they had scored. In the second half we opened with a good run down which ended in Mowatt scoring and about two minutes before time the South Staffords equalized, and the game ended in a draw of two goals each.

The re-play only resulted in another draw, three goals each, and about 12 o'clock the rain commenced and kept on till about 2 P.M., then for the third time the teams met that day. King maintained an excellent defence which saved the first half of the game but later the teams warmed to their work and both ends were vigorously assaulted. till at last the South Staffords got away and scored, and the match was drawn. Sgt.-Maj. Ford of the East Surreys acted as Referee and the following was the team :—

93rd.
Curran.
King.
Mowatt. Lockhart. Millar.

Royal Army Temperance Association.

—o—

The usual monthly business meeting of the Branch took place on the 11th July, and I am pleased to say it was the best-attended one we have had in this Station; I dare say it was owing to the distribution of honours which took place. We have a quarterly distribution now which is much better than giving them to company committee men when they choose to come for them.

The business routine was gone through, and then on the "good of the association" our President (Friend Laird) handed the honors to the recipients, a list of whom is given below. Our membership has increased slightly during the quarter, and I think it is mainly owing to the untiring efforts of the Barman (Pte. Rodwell) making the room more comfortable. There is a small library, a daily paper is taken in, and the latest papers from the old country can be seen on the table. There is also another table set aside for letter-writing purposes, and all writing material is free. Another good attraction is the ping-pong table, and as we are not in possession of a regulation table, three Barrack-room tables put together answer the same purpose and the members enter into the fun of the game with great gusto I trust the efforts of the Barman to make the room attractive will encourage a few more to leave the drink alone and indulge in the stuff that does not inebriate. I am sure a cup of *char* and a *doorstep* is far more beneficial to any man than all the bottles of revolver brand in Calcutta. I hope some of these men will see the folly of wasting their money on that sort of pleasure, in which they get no return for their hard-earned cash and losing likewise the opportunity of laying in store the wherewithal to tide them over the uncertainties they will meet with on return to civil life.

D. G. NEWELL. CORPORAL,
Branch Secretary.

The following were the recipients of medals :—

SIX MONTHS MEDAL.

Private Morrison.	Private Rennie.
„ McMahon.	„ Fletcher.
„ Hutchinson.	„ Campbell.
„ McGilivray.	„ Lees.
„ Thomson.	„ Smith.
„ Reid.	„ McGuire.
„ McDougall.	„ Vernon.

ONE YEAR MEDAL.

Drummer Aitchieson.	Corporal Milne.
Private Mather.	Piper Smith.
„ Paton.	„ McMillan.
„ Lees.	Bandsman Wilmore.
„ McKenzie.	Private Donaldson.
„ Murray.	„ Thomson.

TWO YEARS BAR.

Private Davie.	Private Thomson.

THREE YEARS STAR.

Private Thomson.

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FOUR YEARS BAR.

Drummer Cridland. | Private Thorn.

FIVE YEARS MEDAL.

Bandsman Dunlop. | Private Simpson.

SIX YEARS MEDAL.

Sergeant Laurie | Bandsman McGeechan.

SEVEN YEARS MEDAL.

Private Roberts.

EIGHT YEARS MEDAL.

Sergeant Lookie.

GOLD RINGS.

For serving two years as Company Committee men :—

Corporal Duff. | Lce.-Cpl Oliver.

Lce.-Cpl. McMahon. | Private Laird.

—:o:—

What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

WHAT the Tuppenny step raises the Temperature.

That the New Dreel is that you have to keep one leg straight and the other perperdicular.

That the rear rank should be 66 paces from the front rank.

That he saw him with his three hands up saluting an officer.

That the soldiers' *nonuments* hae been increased.

That he had Haricot veins ta'en oot o' his leg.

That "cocky" toed the line with his heels.

That the best football team in Calcutta is in Bombay.

That the Hooghly is the biggest river in the British Army.

That Blighty is a town somewhere in Ireland.

That it's an argypint you want.

That only his heid wis oot o' bounds.

That he would occupy the ground *dislocated* by the old sentry.

That you do the practical work and I'll do the theory.

What the Parrot's cousin at Jalapahar is saying :—

That all you have to do is to stand still and walk away.

That he wants tae ken if his legs are long enough.

That they fired independent at the white nigger.

That he could play the band himsel.

That he seen twa hooses, but he didna ken whaur they were.

That there is four generosities o' Royalty.

What the Parrot's cousin at Ranikhet is saying :—

That he took the European cook for a lamp-cleaner.

That there is only one man in the S. A. Draft can make date duff.

That he sent his number to the Flying Dhobi.

That the new Drill is "on the command halt you move on."

—:o:—

Calcutta Highlander (to Private Jock McNab, as the pipe band were playing the football team and shield into the Fort on 2nd August) what tune is that?

J. M.—That's "what do ye think o' the Irish now."

C. H.—No, I know that tune that's not it.

J. M.—Oh but they 're playing it in the Gaelic now.

Queen Victoria's landing at Aberdeen.

—o—

THREE SURVIVORS OF THE ROYAL PARTY AND ESCORT.

(*From the Aberdeen Weekly Journal*).

There are only three survivors of all those who took an official part in the reception of Queen Victoria on her landing with the Prince Consort and the Royal children at the harbour of Aberdeen on 8th September 1848. There are the portraits of over 100 persons in the late Mr. Clement's picture of the historic event, but of the whole number only three are believed to be alive, one of these being the King, who was then a young lad. The other two are old soldiers of the 93rd Highlanders, who subsequently stood in the "Thin Red Line," and served their country in many a hard fought struggle. The two soldiers who formed a part of the Queen's escort on the quay were Lieutenant-General Burroughs, of Rousay, Orkney, and ex-Colour-Sergeant Hutton, now residing in Glasgow.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL BURROUGHS.

Lieut.-General Fred. William Traill Burroughs, C.B. (1873), D.L., J.P., Vice-Lieutenant of the Counties of Orkney and Shetland, the owner of 12,000 acres of land in the Island of Rousay, Orkney, was born 1st February 1831. He was the eldest son of General Fredrick William Burroughs and Caroline de Peyron; married Eliza d'Oyly, youngest daughter of Colonel Wm. Geddes, late Bengal Horse Artillery, C.B., D.L., J.P., 4th June 1870. He was educated at Kensington Grammar School, Blackheath, N. P. Grammar School and Hofwyl, Switzerland; became an ensign in the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders in 1848; rose to be lieutenant-colonel commanding 93rd in 1864; commanded brigade Orkney, Volunteer Artillery, 1873-80; was promoted major-general, 1880; lieutenant-general, retired list, 1881. He served throughout the Crimean war, and was one of the "Thin Red Line" at the battle of Balaclava. He served under Lord Clyde in the Indian Mutiny, and was twice wounded; served in command of the 93rd Highlanders in the Umbeyla war on the North-West frontier of India, 1863; was decorated for military services; possesses the Medjidie, 5th class; and has the Crimean medal, with clasps, for Alma, Balaclava, and Sebastopol; the Indian Mutiny medal, with clasp, for relief of Lucknow and capture of Lucknow; and the North West frontier of India medal, with clasp, for Umbeyla. He was twice mentioned in despatches; received brevet of major; was recommended for, but did not receive, the V. C. for being the first through the breach at the storming of the Sekundrabagh at the relief of Lucknow. His recreations are shooting, fishing, yachting, hunting. Residence, Trumland House, Rousay, Orkney Islands.

EX-COLOUR-SERGEANT HUTTON.

Ex-Colour-Sergeant Hutton was one of the guard of honour of the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders With the view of eliciting from him his recollections of the historic occasion, a representative of "The Aberdeen Daily Journal" interviewed ex-Colour-Sergeant Hutton at his house, 115, Montrose Street, Glasgow, a few days ago. He found the veteran hale and hearty, and willing to tell what he remembered of the day's proceedings. He confessed that his memory was not so reliable as it once was, and that the passage of fifty-four years had shrouded in misty clouds his recollections of everything but the outstanding incidents of the day's proceedings, which were engraven on the tablet of his memory as endurably as if on brass.

Ex-Colour-Sergeant Hutton said that although it was pretty generally known that the Royal family were to land at Aberdeen on their way to Deeside, the first official intimation that reached the 93rd Highlanders, then lying

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in Aberdeen, was an order from General Riddel, commanding the forces in Scotland, received about the beginning of September 1848, that Her Majesty Queen Victoria would arrive by sea at Aberdeen about the 8th day of that month. The order was for the 93rd Highlanders to provide a guard of honour of a hundred men. The 93rd regiment was then on its way home after many years' service in Canada, where it had been sent to help in suppressing the Canadian rebellion, and it was expected that the seasoned Highlanders would reach in time to provide a guard of honour of a hundred veterans. Adverse winds, however, delayed the frigate transport on her journey from Canada across the Atlantic, and consequently it fell to the young soldiers stationed at the depôt in Aberdeen to do the honours. Thanks to brisk recruiting, there were then at the depôt four companies, numbering between 300 and 400 men. They were mostly recruits, and included about 50 combmakers who had enlisted, the combworks in Aberdeen having shut up owing to the workers going out on strike. From these four companies one hundred men—whose height averaged 5 feet 11 inches, and the smallest of whom stood 5 feet 8 inches—were picked; another hundred were sent to Ballater to form the guard of honour there, the remainder being told off to line the landing stage.

As the day fixed upon for their Queen's landing drew nigh, the citizens of Aberdeen busied themselves in preparing for the historic event. Loyal enthusiasm ran high, and manufacturers and merchants, shopkeepers and householders vied with each other in decorating their premises and in endeavouring to deck the city in the gayest garb in which, to quote the words of a humble chronicler of the time, "their most laudable efforts were crowned with complete success, Aberdeen that day being just such a harmony of colour as might not shortly be forgotten."

On Thursday, the 7th of September, the entire city was thrown into a state of great excitement, not to say consternation, by the intelligence that the Royal yacht, the Victoria and Albert, with her escort of warships, was in the offing. The citizens, whose decorations had not been completed, were very much put about, but with energy and expedition they speedily put the crowning stone upon their efforts. News of the arrival of the Royal squadron soon spread, and the populace thronged down to the pier to see the Royal ships come in. The excitement was somewhat allayed when it was announced that the Queen was not to land until half-past eight on the following morning (Friday, 8th September).

The eventful day arrived, and from an early hour in the morning great crowds of people thronged into the city from all parts of the countryside. There were no railroads in those days, and along the dusty roads leading into the town, from north, south, and west, came all manner of vehicles—from the crested carriages of the gentry and the gigs and dogcarts of the substantial farmers down to the farm cart carrying the small farmer or crofter and his buxom wife and family abundant.

The loyal holidaymakers were blessed with what was described then, as it has been described since, as Queen's weather, which had the effect of sustaining the enthusiasm and vivacity of spirit of the thousands lining Union Street, Castle Street, Marischal Street, and the quay.

The scene at the landing place, ex-Colour-Sergeant Hutton assured the "Aberdeen Daily Journal" representative, was one never to be forgotten by those who were there. The ships in the harbour displayed hundreds upon hundreds of flags, and all the surrounding buildings were decorated. The specially-erected landing stage was covered with crimson cloth, and in a semicircle around the grand triumphal Royal arch, which was covered with flowers, stood the dignitaries of city and country, many in brilliant uniform and others in various dress. In the background was a decorated grand stand, on which there were several thousand people. The guard of honour of 93rd Highlanders, with their feather bonnets, red tunics, tartan kilts, short hose, and silver-buckled shoes, and accompanied by their drum, fife, and pipe band, made a brave show, and were the subjects of many comments of admiration among the spectators. The officers in charge of the guard of honour were Major Greer, commanding officer; Captains Ainslie and Hay, Lieutenants Grawford, Maxwell, Carden, Seton, and Fraser, and Ensigns McKenzie, Middleton, Young, Macdonald, Bannatyne, Dalzel, and Burroughs, Adjutant-Lieutenant Hartle, and Medical Officer J. Webster, the last named being a native of Aberdeen. When the Queen and Prince Consort, accompanied by Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales (now our King), Prince Alfred (late Duke of Coburg), and the Princess Royal, landed, the vast crowd gave a great cheer, which drowned the first few rounds of the Royal salute fired by a battery of cannon on the Inches and by the warships of the Royal escort. The cheering continued for some time. The Queen and Prince Consort appeared highly pleased with the reception, which, Sergeant Hutton added, was typical of the Aberdeen people. The Royal family having entered their carriage, drove slowly through the cheering multitude along the gorgeously-decorated route by Marischal Street, Castle Street, and Union Street to Deeside.

That night was one of great rejoicing in Aberdeen, but, Sergeant Hutton added, the soldiers on that day received no special recognition by the authorities, their share of the festivities being their usual half-pound of bread and a bowl of tea. However, they were true soldiers of the Queen, and did not grumble, feeling rather proud that they had played such an important part in the day's proceedings.

Ex-Colour-Sergeant Hutton pointed out, with pride in his old regiment, that the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders formed the guard of honour on the occasion of the late Queen's first visit to Balmoral in 1848, and also on the occasion of the first visit of King Edward VII. last year.

Since forming one of the guard of honour to the late Queen in 1848, Mr. Hutton has seen a good deal of hard, active service. The four companies of the 93rd left Aberdeen to fill up the blanks in the regiment when it came home from Canada, and went into garrison at head-quarters in Stirling. From Stirling the 93rd proceeded to Edinburgh, then to Glasgow, and from Glasgow to England, and were stationed first at Weedon and then at Portsmouth, from which station 100 men, with pipe band, went up to London to take part in the Duke of Wellington's funeral procession. On the outbreak of the Crimean war the 93rd embarked at Plymouth for the Crimeas. For this campaign ex-Colour-Sergeant Hutton has the medal with clasps for Alma, Balaclava, and Sebastopol; the Turkish Crimean medal, and the French Crimean medal for valour and discipline. He also went through the Indian Mutiny, for which he has the Mutiny medal and clasps for the relief of Lucknow and capture of Lucknow, and took part in the North-West frontier war of 1860-1861, for which he has the medal and clasp for Umbeyla. In addition he has the long service and good conduct medal. When dressed with his breast of six medals, with six clasps, ex-Colour-Sergeant Hutton looks every inch the brave old veteran British soldier that he is.

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Lieutenant-General Burroughs.

—o—

In connection with the portraits published of the three survivors of all those who took part in Queen Victoria's landing at Aberdeen in 1848, Lieut.-General Burroughs writes:—It is melancholy to think that Colour-Sergeant Hutton and I are now the sole survivors of the guard of honour of the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders that received Queen Victoria and Prince Albert and their family on landing at Aberdeen for their first visit to Balmoral in 1848. I was on that occasion the ensign of the guard, but carried no colours, as the colours of the regiment were with its head-quarters, then in Canada.

Please remember me very kindly to Colour-Sergeant Hutton.

—:o:—

Ninety-third Calendar for September 1902.

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1	M.	Est. reduced to 30 officers, 41 sergeants, 23 drummers and pipers, 40 corporals and 560 privates, 1878.
2	Tu.	
3	W.	
4	Th.	
5	F.	
6	S.	Victoria Cross presented to Lieut.-Colonel Hans Garrett Moore at Gibraltar, 1879.
7	S.	
8	M.	Second grand assault on Sebastopol, 1856, Redan entered by Lieutenants Macbean and Fenwick and 10 volunteers, and found deserted.
9	Tu.	Tochi Campaign, Second Khaza Column under General Penn-Symons left Sheranni, 1897. Third cholera outbreak in 1862.
10	W.	
11	Th.	
12	F.	
13	S.	
14	S.	Landed in Crimea, 1854.
15	M.	
16	Tu.	Emb. Plymouth on board H. M. S. *Alceste*, *Bedford* and *Bell Poule* for America (New Orleans), 1814. Strength, 33 officers, 42 sergeants, 22 trumpeters (?), 48 corporals and 817 privates.
17	W.	Enfield Rifles (53 pattern) issued to regiment in Crimea, 1854. Sergeants left Half Bn. win presentation shooting cup at Ranikhet, 1901.
18	Th.	
19	F.	March to Sebastopol commenced, 1854.
20	S.	Battle of the Alma, 1854; 1 officer and 7 men killed, 44 wounded. *Mauritius* arrived Calcutta, 1857.
21	S.	Emb. Guernsey for Scotland (Kirkcaldy), 1802.
22	M.	
23	Tu.	Emb. Fort George for Guernsey, 1800.
24	W.	
25	Th.	
26	F.	*Belleisle* arrived Calcutta, 1857; regiment met and welcomed by Sir Colin Campbell.
27	S.	
28	S.	
29	M.	
30	Tu.	

—:o:—

The Delhi Manœuvres.

—o—

Lord Kitchener arrives in India after visiting Khartoum about the end of November, and will conduct the Delhi manœuvres. General Egerton commands the Northern Army with General More Molyneux as Chief of the Staff, Sir E Locke Elliot, commanding the Cavalry with Lieutenant-Colonels Littledale, J. C. Gordon and Francis as Brigadiers. Major-General Sir J. Wolfe Murray commands the 1st Infantry Division with Brigadier-Generals F. Whitby and H. Abbott and Colonel B. Duff as Brigadiers. Major-General Wodehouse commands the Southern Army with Colonel Bromfield as Chief of the Staff and Colonel M. Little in command of the Cavalry with Lieutenant-Colonels Kincaird Smith and Cookson as Brigadiers. Major-General W. Hill commands the 3rd Infantry Division with Brigadier-General Sir J. Willcocks and Colonel A. Pearson as Brigadiers. The concentration will take place for the whole force between the 15th and 20th of November. The Viceroy's escort at Delhi will be H. Battery, R. H. A., 4th Dragoon Guards, 11th Bengal Lancers, 2nd K. O. S. Borderers and the 15th Sikhs, with four sections British and native field hospitals and a supply column.

Detail of the Troops.

The following is the distribution of the troops for the manœuvres:—

NORTHERN ARMY.

1st Cavalry Division.

D. Battery, R. H. A	1st Brigade.
4th Dragoon Guards	
11th Bengal Lancers	
C. S. Horse	
I. Battery, R. H. A.	2nd Brigade.
9th Lancers	
8th Bengal Lancers	
19th " "	
2 Squadrons, 3rd B. L. ...	3rd Brigade.
Guides Cavalry	
5th Punjab Cavalry	
Patiala Lancers	

1st Infantry Division.

South Wales Borderers ...	1st Brigade.
Welsh Regiment	
3rd Ghurkas	
23rd Bombay Infantry ...	
Gordon Highlanders	2nd Brigade.
Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders	
1st Punjab Infantry	
27th Baluchis	
46th, 51st and 54th Batrs., R. F. A.	Divisional Troops.
No. 6 Mountain Battery ...	
Derajat Mountain Battery ...	
1 Squadron, 1st P. C.	
½ Battalion, Mounted Infantry ...	
15th Sikhs	
1 Company, Bengal Sappers ...	

2nd Infantry Division.

Hampshire Regiment	3rd Brigade.
Border Regiment	
20th Punjab Infantry	
38th Dogras	
3rd Rifle Brigade	4th Brigade.
2nd King's Rifle Corps ...	
2nd Ghurkas	
30th Garwhalis	
K. O. S. Borderers	5th Brigade.
32nd Pioneers	
Jhind, Nabha, Kapurthalla and Patiala, I. S. Infantry ...	

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13th, 34th and 72nd Batrs., R. F. A.	Divisional Troops.
No. 1 Mountain Battery ...	
Quetta „ „ ...	
Kashmir „ „ ...	
1 Squadron, 2nd P. C.	
1 „ 10th B. L.... ...	
28th M. I.	
No. 2 Coy., Madras Sappers ...	

CORPS TROOPS.

1 Battalion, Mounted Infantry.
Bikanir Camel Corps.
42nd, 51st, 71st and 104th Coys., R. G. A.
2 Companies, 4th Sikhs.
„ „ 2nd Punjab Infantry.
„ „ 4th „ „
„ „ Guides.

SOUTHERN ARMY.

2ND CAVALRY DIVISION.

H Battery, R. H. A. .../ ...	4th Brigade.
15th Hussars	
9th Bombay Lancers	
4th „ „	
2nd Hyderabad Lancers ...	5th Brigade.
Ulwar Lancers	
Gwalior „	
Bhopal „	

3RD INFANTRY DIVISION.

Connaught Rangers	6th Brigade.
Royal Irish Rifles	
6th Jats	
13th Rajputs	
South Lancashire Regiment ...	7th Brigade.
North Stafford Regiment ...	
4th Hyderabad Rifles	
1st Moplah Rifles	
24th, 34th and 72nd Batrs., R. F. A.	Divisional Troops.
1 Squadron, 14th Bengal Lancers ...	
4th Rajputs	
4th Madras Pioneers	
Nos. 3 & 4 Corps, Bengal Sappers...	

CORPS TROOPS.

1 Battalion, Mounted Infantry.
Nos. 72 and 91, Garrison Batteries.
Ulwar and Bhurtpore Infantry.
4th Company, Bombay Sappers.

British and native hospitals will be established at Umballa for the Northern and at Delhi for the Southern Armies. Balloon Sections, Field Hospitals and other details will be attached to the various units.

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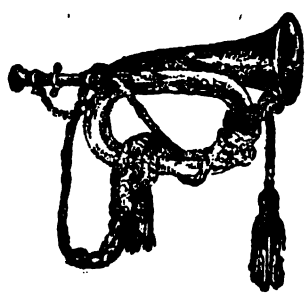

In Loving Memory

OF A COMRADE,

No. 3536, PTE. F. COLLINS,

C Co., 1st A. & S. H., late of the R. M. F.,

Who departed this life at Klerksdorp on the 24th May 1902.

—o—

Fred was his name, and a jolly chap was he,
He had not been long with us in our Company C.
He was a pleasant fellow, kind-hearted, staunch and true,
And he would make you cheerful, with the tales he told to you,
But now his voice is silent, on earth he'll speak no more,
For he has filled a soldier's grave upon South Africa's shore.

For the last twelve months or so I have known him in this life,
With him I've shared the hardships of a soldier's life
Together we were comrades "where the orange blossoms blow."
That's in the land called India where together we did go,
We landed home together, upon old England's shore,
Shook hands and parted, not thinking to meet once more.

I was pleased to meet him, and glad also to see
That he was in the best of health, and he thought the same of me.
It was just before Christmas—November—'99
When I met my comrade, Fred, at a station on the line,
We wished each other the best of luck, and a safe return
To our home and friends who for us their hearts will yearn.

We are parted now for ever, no more shall we shake hands,
No more in the ranks again shall we together stand.
No truer and faithful comrade I should wish to see,
If you were dull and sad at heart, cheer you up would he,
The voice we loved to hear is still, and vacant is his place,
Though absent in the flesh is he, but in memory we'll see his face.

He was laid to rest at sunset on the 24th of May,
My heart was sad, it made me weep, as in the grave he lay,
I never thought that we should be parted again so soon,
And I should stand beside him as he laid in the tomb,
So rest in peace, my comrade, Fred, we're parted for evermore,
I hope and trust we'll meet again, upon the golden shore.

Sad hearts he has left behind, for him his friends will mourn,
Deep will be the sorrow when they know from them he's torn,
But in the ruler of our lives sweet comfort they can find—
I share the sorrow with his friends, the loved ones left behind—
And in the mansions of the blest, where we shall one and all
Meet him again beyond the grave to answer the last roll call.

COMPOSED BY PTE. W. T. HICKMAN,
1ST A. & S. HIGHLANDERS.

Private Collins left India to go to the Reserve and being in South Africa at the outbreak of hostilities was sent to the Royal Munster Fusiliers, after which he joined the Ninety-First and served in it until the unfortunate occurrence by which his life was ended.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant-Major, 4th Battalion:—No. 1938, Quarter-Master-Sergeant L. Robinson, dated 19th November 1901.

To be Quarter-Master-Sergeant:—No. 3116, Colour-Sergeant W. R. Weller, "H" Company, dated 1st July 1902.

To be Colour-Sergeant:—No. 3006, Sergeant Ewan to "C" Company, dated 12th July 1902; No. 3037, Sergeant G. Arnott to "B" Company, dated 20th July 1902.

To be Sergeants:—No. 3557, Lance-Sergeant F. Hiscock, "A" Company, dated 20th July 1902; No. 4983, Lance-Sergeant M. Rutherford, "H" Company, dated 12th July 1902.

To be Sergeant, Unattached List:—No. 5853, Lance-Corporal J. Brown, "G" Company, with effect from 6th June 1902.

To be Corporals:—No. 6842, Corporal J. McKay, "H" Company, dated 12th July 1902; No. 6098, Lance-Corporal J. Young, "A" Company, dated 20th July 1902.

PAY OF RANK.

To be paid Lance-Sergeants:—No. 5929, Lance-Sergeant D. Stobie, "H" Company, dated 12th July 1902; No. 5842, Corporal R. Glass, "A" Company, dated 20th July 1902.

To be paid Lance-Corporals:—No. 5516, Lance-Corporal G. Anderson, "C" Company, dated 20th July 1902; No. 5827, Lance-Corporal J. Clarke, "F" Company, dated 11th July 1902.

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"G" Company.

No. 5612, Pte. C. McCulloch. | No. 5834, Pte. J. McMillan.

At 1d. per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 5513, Pte. R. Foster. | No. 7586, Pte. C. H. McMillan.

"F" Company.

No. 5777, Pte. J. Brown. | No. 5634, Pte. R. Haining.

No. 6338, Drummer W. Balfour.

"G" Company.

No. 4743, Private R. Hill.

"H" Company.

No. 5243, Pte. H. Laurie. | No. 6020, Pte. J. McMahon.

CERTIFICATES.

Passed the Course in Surveying, Drawing and Reconnaissance, as prescribed for British Military Surveyors at the Thomason College, Roorkee.—No. 5530, Sergeant S. Gurney, "A" Company. *Granted Acting School Master's Certificate, dated 7th July* 1902.—No. 5842, Lance-Sergeant R. Glass, "A" Company. *Passed Part I (1st Class Education Certificates), dated 25th March* 1902.—No. 3394, Sergeant J. Durnan, "D" Company. *Granted "Cold Shoeing Certificate."*—No. 5760, Private W. Riddock, "A" Company.

TAKEN ON STRENGTH.

No. 6536, Private J. Ballantyne and No. 6406, Private P. Kelly, from 1st Battalion, South Africa. Posted to "D" Company. Boy Francis Thomas Bennet enlisted on 9th July 1902. Posted to "D" Company.

STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

To Permanent Volunteer Staff, Home Establishment.—No. 1085, Colour-Sergeant J. Chaplin, "D" Company. Authority dated 20th July 1902. *After 21 years' service*:—Private A. Mitchell. To England with wife and three children.

RESTORED SERVICE.

In accordance with para. 1842, King's Regulations:—

No. 6083, Drummer W. Millar, "H" Company.
„ 5997, Private J. McGuire, "E" Company.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

To Private Dougald Campbell, "B" Company, No. 8388.

——: o :——

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—o—

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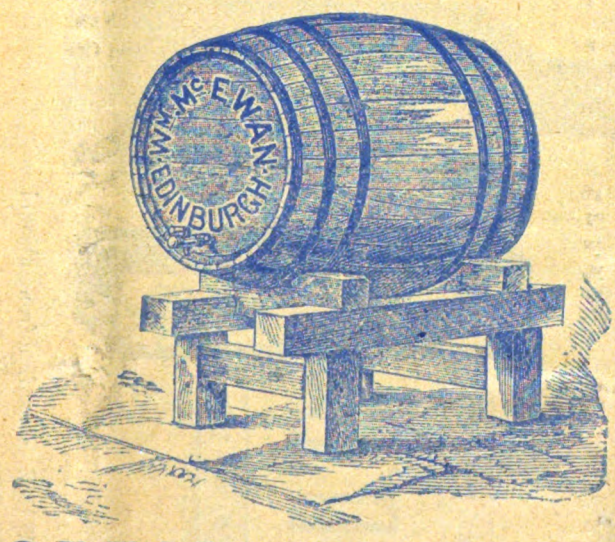

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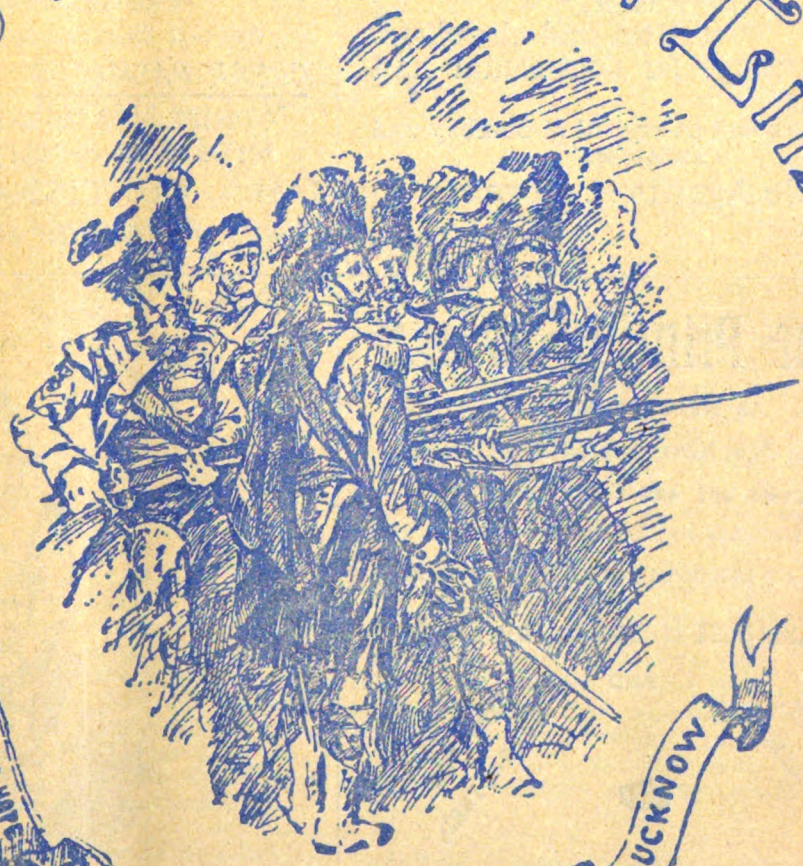
The Thin Red Line.



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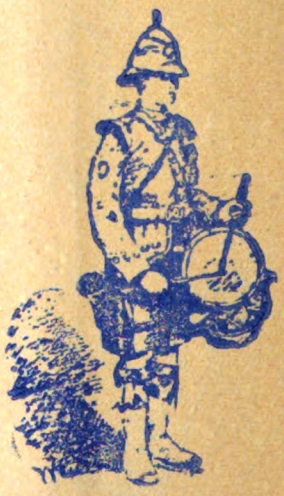

NOW READY.

Vol. VII,

THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 5—Vol. VIII.] CALCUTTA—SEPTEMBER 1902. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

The Coronation of His Majesty King Edward VII, Emperor of India, which took place successfully on the 9th August, has filled the thoughts of everyone at home and abroad with a feeling of loyalty and thankfulness which has never been surpassed in the history of the Empire.

The day was observed as a holiday, and divine service was largely attended by all members of the community. The home papers are teeming with accounts of everything and illustrations of every detail to such an extent that it makes the ceremony seem to us out here almost as familiar as if we had been there and seen it all.

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We have been so busy with the New Drill since the book reached us that we are beginning to feel quite at home with it now and can appreciate the differences between it and the old. There is no doubt it is laid down on more commonsense principles than its predecessor, and for this reason alone is sure to be popular —if only from a sense of appreciation of the desire to show a little more inclination to depart from time-honoured and time-expired customs which are as useless for all practical purposes as they are interesting from an antiquarian point of view.

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As the cold weather approaches things begin to look brighter once more, after the enervating influence of a hot weather and monsoon in a place like the Fort. To those who have been unable to get away the prospect of a fresh and invigorating nip in the air makes them feel as if life were going to be worth living once more, while those who have been more fortunate in securing a berth in the hills will be quite ready for a turn in the plains once more as from all we hear, the novelties of khud-climbing seem to be wearing off, as they invariably do. It will be interesting too to see for ourselves how the great manœuvres at Delhi turn out, and the change of air will be very welcome.

In Calcutta the weather has not been very propitious. Early in the year it was extremely close and intermittent spells of generally a few days at a time were very warm, while the rain has made the air so damp as to render any approach at exercise a labour and far from a pleasure.

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As regards exercise in such a trying climate there are different notions to be found in different people, but the idea that a man can spend his whole day and every day without something more than the morning parade to keep him from becoming physically soft, and therefore more liable to take chills and fevers, has by now exploded. There is no doubt that some determined method of taking exercise is the only thing to make one's self keep well and, be

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it a game or a bicycle ride or a walk, they are all equally satisfactory. There are days when it becomes more a duty than a form of amusement, but the end is worthy of the means.

The new idea that of having Roll Calls at some point outside is the very thing to keep us in sufficient training to withstand the climate, and being able to go out without the panoply of war is an additional privilage. The scant number of places available for the rendezvous is a disadvantage which is probably peculiar to Calcutta, and is one of the things we have to be content to put up with.

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As usual when the trooping season draws near and reliefs begin to be conjectured we began to ask ourselves what chances we had of getting a change.

The general opinion seemed to be that a change was possible, although we could not consider ourselves entitled to it, for the reason that the regiment was included in the list of those going to Delhi for the manœuvres and Durbar, and rumour had it that only those who were on the relief list were to go to Delhi. But when they were published about the middle of the month our hopes—over sanguine perhaps—were shattered, and the middle of January will see us settled once more in Dalhousie Barracks and its immediate neighbourhood.

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Persistent rumours of possible earthquakes have given the less courageous of us one or two shocks lately. But as yet each day on which one was predicted has passed quietly, and we are still here to tell it. Perhaps a feeling not altogether of confidence in the stability of our several bungalows under such trying circumstances is the cause of this, but by this time we are not so easily to be disturbed by any alarmist rumours and are prepared to take the next with a "leetle drop o' spring water."

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We have to thank many contributers this month for sending in articles, and among them Mr. Forbes Mitchell for his interesting contribution which appears in another column. From such a veteran of the regiment and so old and valuable a contributor it comes as a special item of interest, and will be read with much appreciation. If those connected with the regiment would always contribute so generously as they have done this month it would make the paper of more interest to our readers, and we hope we may count on similar help in future.

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The circulation of the "Thin Red Line" is a most satisfactory piece of news to have to report. At present we are sending out some 1,250 copies, which is more than we have ever had to order hitherto. We are very much indebted to our contributors and the valuable nature of their contributions for this state of things.

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The Drill Season will soon be on us again and we hope to be united once more before many weeks have passed. The Ranikhet and Jalapahar Detachments will bring back our wanderers to Head-quarters, and we shall have our fighting strength for the manœuvres. As far as rumour goes it is expected that by the 24th of November all the forces are to be concentrated at Delhi and Umballa, and the Regiment will then be brigaded with the Gordons and the 1st P. J. and 27th Baluchis forming the 2nd Infantry Brigade of the Northern Army, whose rendezvous is Umballa. After a day or two in camp we shall trek to Delhi, taking about a fortnight to fight our way there under service conditions. We hear there are some contingents marching already to the great rendezvous, and should imagine that they will be rather tired of it before they get back again. The Umpire Staff will be headed by Lord Kitchener as C.-in-C. in India It is sure to be an experience not easily forgotten.

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In his final despatch in connection with the South African War Lord Kitchener specially mentions the services of Brevet-Lieut.-Col. W. Henderson, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. He also brings to notice the service of the following Officers and N.-C. O.'s of the Regiment: —

Lieut.-Col. A. Wilson, C.B.; Brevet-Lieut.-Col. E. V. Urmston; Capt. J. Johnston-Stewart; Lieut. W. G. Neilson, D.S.O.; Colr.-Sergt. J. Inglis; Sergts. A. Matthews and C. Gray; Corpl. G. Watson; Lce.-Corpl. G. Spencer.

4th Bn.—Capt. and Hon. Maj. W. Mure; Capt. B. A. Cuninghame; Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. M'Lachlan; Colr.-Sergt. W. Jackson; Sergt. W. Wallace.

2nd Scottish Horse.—Lieut. J. L. Jack (2nd V. B., Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders).

We have much pleasure in congratulating the above on the honour they have gained, many of them for the second time, in being honourably mentioned in despatches; and we are pleased to see that an old member of the staff of the "*Thin Yin*" in the person of Corporal Guy Watson is included in the list.

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Lord Roberts has informed the Council of Scottish Associations in London that there is no intention of interfering with the dress and the specific tartans of the Highland Regiments, except that the colour of the service dress must be, like the rest of the Army, khaki, but will be made to suit the Highland uniforms.

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A marriage has been arranged between Capt.

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Grahame, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, A.-D.-C. to Sir Archibald Hunter and Miss Gladys Fletcher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher of Saltoun.

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Sanction has been given to certain alterations in connection with signalling in British Corps in India. Signalling prizes, together with extra duty pay, are to be abolished, and a sliding scale of pay, dependent on the position of the Corps in the roll of the order of merit, is adopted.

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Captain Graham has been selected for appointment to the Burma Police, and left during August to take over his new duties. It is a two-year appointment with an optional extension to five years. Our best wishes go with him and Mrs. Graham to their new country.

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Captains Glasfurd and Hyslop have both gone away on shooting leave, the former for five weeks and the latter for six weeks.

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Captain Elphinston returned at the end of the month from his three months' stay in Simla, and resumed command of "F" Company from Lieut. A. J. H. Maclean, who has taken over "C" Company.

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Lieut. Thomson has gone away for a course of instruction at the School of Musketry, Pachmari.

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2nd Lieut. Falconar-Stewart has returned to Head-quarters from Jalapahar, and Lieut. Douglas and 2nd Lieut. Cheape are expected to bring the draft down by the end of September.

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Captain Marshall and 2nd Lieut. Forbes are expected also with the Ranikhet draft before the end of September.

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"Bedad, I'd Tickle Him."

A good story is told of an Irishman, more patriotic than clever, who enlisted in one of the smart cavalry regiments. The fencing instructor had experienced rather a difficult job in the matter of explaining to him the various ways of using the sword. "Now," he said, "how would you use the sword if your opponent feinted?" "Bedad," said Pat, with gleaming eyes, "I'd just tickle him with the point to see if he was shamming."

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The Effects of the Heat.

A certain Company at Military training was being warned for the next day's parade. The Orderly Sergeant gives out the following order.—

"The Company will parade to-morrow, dress all khaki, rifles and side-arms, without bayonets!"

Overheard in another Company.

"The Company parades to-morrow morning at 8-30 for fitting Quinine, and immediately afterwards for drinking Sergeo."

On Leave.

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If any of you feel inclined to take a ten days' furlough, where you can get an absolute rest, and fresh air, you might do worse than spend your time on a steamer up the Brahmapootra.

Book from Sealdah to Gauhatti. Leaving Sealdah at 10-30 P.M. you arrive at Goalundo by train at 5 A.M. There you board one of the steamers of the India Steam Navigation Company, and have nothing to do but to allow the river breezes to blow through you. During the rains you will hardly believe that you are on a river; as far as the eye can reach on right and left is water. Sometimes, however, you pass through quite narrow passages the banks covered with tall jungle grass, while further back you see the forests and the distant hills. The steamers are comfortable and fast and touch frequently at various little villages at the banks. On the lower reaches the inhabitants seem to live almost entirely by fishing, and rearing fowls and pigeons for sale. The native boats are probably the same that were made by Noah's family immediately after their release from the Ark, merely huge logs hollowed out and with high sterns and bows. They draw no water, but one of the most jumpy experiences I ever went through was a journey in one of them. They are either paddled or poled and literally one dare not move hand or foot, as they threaten to overturn at the slightest movement. I must say I never actually saw one turn over, and as the boatmen are virtually amphibious, it wouldn't matter if they did. We ran over one in the steamer, happily we were going very slowly, and the two boatmen got on board the steamer with little difficulty, and several boats shot out from the bank and captured the derelict which was floating serenely down the river. On the afternoon of the 3rd day you arrive at Gauhatti, where you can easily put in three days pleasantly. The approach to Gauhatti is very beautiful, the river here is dotted with large wooded islands, most of them with old temples on them. Coming in when the sun is setting is a sight not quickly forgotten. Gauhatti is quite an important place, there being probably a dozen Europeans there. From here you can proceed to Shillong, but you can't do this on 10 days' leave. Shillong is the hill station, about 60 miles away, you get there by tonga, but the tongas are very different affairs to the ones we knew on the Simla road. They are light bamboo affairs, covered like a tonga, with a decent pony in the shafts and a second pony tied on anyhow outside the shafts. The ponies are nearly all "badmashes," but once they start they batter along their 5 or 6 miles stage at a good pace. Some of us have, I think, sampled pretty nearly every hill station in India,

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but Shillong is entirely diifferent to any other. Before I proceed to describe Shillong the journey by tonga is worth mentioning. The first 10 miles or so is nothing particular. The next 10 is through a most beautiful bamboo forest, with all kinds of palms and creepers, and vegetation. From this you emerge on a curious open rolling country, soft low hills covered with grass. It reminded me of some parts of the South of Scotland. You begin to climb very gradually, and it is only the last 10 miles where you come to the hills. There you gradually get in to the ilex woods and so up to the firs and pines of Shillong. Time from Gauhatti about 9 hours. Shillong is lovely, a plateau on a hill top with higher hills in the distance. While we were up in the Tochi the place was destroyed by an earthquake, literally not one stone being left upon another. However, it has now been rebuilt according to Japanese plans. I don't quite know how it is done, but the supports and heavy beams of the houses are built so as to allow a little play during an earthquake. We had at least three earthquakes every week while I was in Shillong, but they were slight affairs and no one ever bothered about them.

There are lovely walking, driving and riding roads all about Shillong. Tennis courts, polo ground, cricket ground and excellent 9-hole golf course in the middle of the station there. From Gauhatti better return to Calcutta the same way, and I am certain you will feel all the better for your pleasant loaf up and down the river.

(To be continued). W. T.

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Concert.

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A concert was given in the Regimental Theatre on the 13th August. As many of our readers know to their cost, fever was very prevalent at that time, and several of those who had kindly promised their help at the concert were unable to appear. Originally, the programme included such attractive items as a pianoforte solo by Mrs. Aldam, and songs by Mrs. Finucane, Mr. A. C. Paterson, and Mr. J. Kennedy; but on the evening of the concert these were all unable to appear. A phonograph, which was expected to give selections, also failed to put in an appearance, and it is believed in some quarters that the singularly delicate and sympathetic constitution of the phonograph renders it liable to ailments similar to those from which human performers suffer. We hope, however, to have the pleasure of hearing all these friends, including the phonograph, at no very distant date.

In spite of the many disappointments, an excellent programme had been arranged, largely owing to the indefatigabl exertions of Sergeant-Major Ditcham. As actually rendered, it was as follows:—

PART I.

OVERTURE	"A Phantom Brigade"	*Band.*
SONG	"Play us an old Comealye"	*Lce.-Cpl. Armour.*
SONG	"Tommy's Tournament"	*Staff-Sgt. Terry.*
SONG	"The Deathless Army"	*Mr. J. McMurray.*
SONG	"A Trip to Paris"	*Pte. Burns.*
SONG	"The Old Country"	*Mrs. Cahill.*
DUET	"Larboard Watch"	*Messrs. McMurray and Easton.*
SONG	"Maggie Jordan"	*Sgt. Glass.*
SWORD DANCE	.....	*Piper Finlayson.*
MONOLOGUE	"I and my Father-in-law"	*Mrs. Topham.*
SONG	"Dolly Gray"	*Mr. R. S. Easton.*
SONG	"Sticking out"	*Mr.-Gr. O'Neil.*

PART II.

PICCOLO SOLO	"Lilliputian"	*Corpl. Willcocks.*
SONG	"The Holy City"	*Mrs. Byers.*
IMPERSONATION	.....	*Mr. Henry.*
SONG	"Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep"	*Mr. J. McMurray.*
REEL	*Piper Finlayson, Ptes. McMillan and Fleming, and Sgt. Ogg.*	
SONG	"Postponed"	*Mr.-Gr. O'Neil.*
SONG	"Elegant Bertie"	*Bandsman Reynolds.*

GOD SAVE THE KING.

In dealing with so long a programme it is impossible to give detailed criticism of each item; but it may be said at once that the friends who have favoured us before came up to the expectations formed of them, and the first appearances of the others made us hope that they would not be their last. Mrs. Cahill sang "The old country" sweetly and pleasantly, Mrs. Topham rendered with great skill the varying moods of playfulness, indignation and tearfulness required in the difficult monologue, "I and my Father-in-law." Mrs. Byers sang "The Holy City" with great power and expression, and responded to a vociferous encore with the popular "Honeysuckle and the Bee." "Fause Maggie Jordan," sung by Sergt. Glass, was also encored, and he responded with the old favourite, "It's a braw bricht moonlicht nicht." Mr. Easton's fine tenor voice was heard to great advantage in the plaintive "Dolly Gray," and his duet with Mr. McMurray in "Larboard Watch" was warmly received. Master-Gunner O'Neil was recalled for both his songs, giving "Girly-Girly" and "Another One" in response. His wonderful clearness of enunciation, even in fast and difficult passages, is a quality which all budding vocalists would do well to cultivate. Mr. Henry's impersonation of the Bengali Babu was, as always, well done and well received. A word of thanks is due to the accompanists, who, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Affleck, took his place at short notice.

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The City of Palaces of 1857.

AS COMPARED WITH THAT OF 1902.

By William Forbes Mitchell.

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I have to acknowledge with best thanks a copy of the double number of the THIN RED LINE for March and April and I cannot say how it makes my old heart warm to the dear old tartan to see my name so often mentioned in its pages. Some writer, I forget who, has put it on record that "There is as much human nature in some folks as there is in others, if not more;" and I have a good share of that and a still larger share of "guid Scotch conceit" in my composition, and it makes me real proud to read my name in the THIN RED LINE, recalling to the present generation the memory of the "Glorious old THIN RED LINE, tipped with steel" of the memorable 25th October 1854. I can still shut my eyes and lie back in my chair and plainly hear the voice of Sir Colin calling "Steady NINETY-THIRD, Steady! Damn all that eagerness!" But you of the present generation have heard that often repeated.

But I must get on with my story: In this number the Editor says with reference to Calcutta, "The times are changed, and perhaps Mr. Forbes Mitchell could tell us to what extent, as he landed with the Regiment in 1857, so better late than never I will briefly do the best I can for the edification of the gallant lads of the present day who still take a pride in the Old Tartan.

First let us take the Hooghli of 1857. In those days there was not a single cottage or jute mill on its banks, while such a thing as a factory chimney 60 feet high was unknown, but so far as I recollect the smoke nuisance was every bit as bad in 1857 as it is to-day, so the mills of Howrah should not be blamed. Of course my readers must understand that in 1857 good old John Kampani Bahadur still ruled the land and he was dead against all interlopers or independent merchants starting factories for the development of the resources of India. There was no Suez Canal until fourteen years after the mutiny and but few steamers visited the Hooghli. Green's old line of sailing ships had the monopoly of the trooping and passenger service between Calcutta and Europe. But your space is limited, therefore I must be brief. As you all know the Head-quarters of the NINETY-THIRD came out in the old S. S. *Mauritius* under Lieut.-Col. A. S. Leith Hay, comprising, as it did, seven companies. The other three, Nos. 2, 7 and 8, left England in H. M. S. *Bellisle* of 84 guns on the 1st June under Captains Cornwall (Daddy Cornwall was the oldest officer in the Regiment), Dawson and Williams, all commanded by Lieut.-Col. the Hon. Adrien Hope.

When the *Bellisle* sighted the Sand Heads on the 19th September, 111 days from Plymouth; we learned that the *Mauritius* had just passed up the river, and as tug steamers were looking out for vessels with troops, we followed on the 20th September, the third anniversary of the "Alma," and anchored abreast of Prinsep's Ghât about 3 P M. on the 21st. Let us compare Prinsep's Ghât of to-day with that of 1857. In front of the Ghât you will still find two stone lions, one sleeping and the other watching, which formed the two ends of the wings on the right and left of a flight of steps leading down to the water level. The *Bellisle* anchored abreast of the steps and, to show how much the river has receded, a staging was fixed from the second deck of the ship to the steps, by which communication was held with the shore.

In 1857 there was no bridge over the Hooghli connecting Howrah with Calcutta. The present bridge was opened on the 22nd October 1874, before which date all traffic and communication between Howrah and Calcutta was conducted by a few ferry boats and thousands of dinghies which crowded the river day and night. There were no jetties or landing stages of any kind, and the whole of the shipping was anchored to the buoys still moored in the stream. The Kidderpore Docks were not opened till 1892. As for Fort William itself, I do not think there have been many additions or alterations, as you will doubtless believe, but the European quarter of the city has almost entirely been rebuilt. Facing the Fort next the Hooghli river the Town Hall is the only public building which existed in 1857. The High Court and Bank of Bengal are new, Government House is the same as in 1857, but all the public offices on the west are new. Dalhousie Square was then called Tank Square, and South, West, and North sides and most of the East side including the Currency Office have been entirely rebuilt. The General Post Office was the first of the new buildings erected before the name of the Square was changed. There was no water laid on in Calcutta in 1857, it was all brought for the European quarter from the Dalhousie Tank, then called the "Lall Dighee," and of a morning hundreds of Bheesties with their *mussaks* crowded the steps of the Tank. For the most parts the streets were unmetalled with open drains at each side. There was no gas in 1857, only oil lamps which made darkness visible. In my company we had a man named Frank Henderson who wrote rhymes, and I can still recall a part of a poem he made after returning from storing our heavy baggage:—

"This is Calcutta upon the Hooghli,
"It is not fair, but wond'rous ugly;
"How strong it is I need not tell it,
"For all the world indeed can smell it
"Who walk its streets along."

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The leading hotel in 1857 was known as Mountain's Hotel, now occupied by the American Consul-General. Mountain's Hotel was the rendezvous of Military and Naval Officers. The Great Eastern was then called the Auckland, or Wilson's Hotel, and consisted only of the wing facing British India Street, then called "Rani Moodyke Gully," and behind where the front part of the Great Eastern now stands was the "Café Chantant" of a certain lady called Mother Blazes, where the young bloods of Calcutta used to meet in mutiny and premutiny days. The establishment of Mother Blazes was removed from the city by Sir Stewart Hogg after he became Commissioner of Police and Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality. Mother Blazes herself became converted and died leaving over a crore of rupees to Mother Church. Although very much abused at the time, no man in my time in India did more for the improvement of modern Calcutta than Sir Stewart Hogg. The present Municipal Market is to this day known by the natives as "Stewart Sahibkie Bazar." As for ticca gharries there were, but few of them in 1857, but palkees were to be met with by the hundred.

Proceeding up-country, the railway was not laid beyond Raniganj, from which station the troops proceeded by the old Grand Trunk Road which had just been completed, connecting Calcutta with Peshawur. As suggestive of the state of the country, after leaving Raniganj in front of every Magistrate's Kacherry stood a gallows of sufficient capacity to accommodate half-a-dozen *patients*, as the French say, and alongside the gallows stood a set of lashed triangles fully equipped with straps and a cat-o'-nine tails of unusual size and weight. But this is not a history of India in 1857, but a brief sketch of my recollections of Calcutta comparing then and now.

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A Crimean Veteran.

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There has just passed away at Overton, Wishaw, an old Crimean and Indian Veteran in the person of Mr. Peter Burns, aged 66 years. He enlisted in the old 93rd and shortly after was sent to the seat of war. He was present with his regiment at the fall of all the Russian strongholds; also he was with the Regiment at the second relief at Lucknow, the defeat of Tantia Topu at Cawnpore, the recapture of Lucknow, and a fierce battle at Bareilly, all under Sir Colin Campbell. Burns has three medals and clasps for his services to his country.—"*People's Journal.*"

Draftie to native shoe-maker.—Gie me a pair o' madeovers.

Shoe-maker.—Achcha Sahib.

Draftie.—Kitne baje?

Shoe-maker.—Chai baje Sahib.

Draftie.—Get awa' min I'll gie ye the same as the ither acc-ademies,—twa dibs.

Orderly Sergeant to officer in charge of Church Parade—Church of England present, Sir, I have the Roman Catholics in my hat.

Athletics.

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The Regimental team is in training and go to Bombay in a few days to play in the Bombay Rovers Football Association Tournament and we hope to have doughty deeds to report of their doings in our next issue.

Company Football.—The month has been taken up entirely since the famous match against Dalhousie on the 2nd by a series of minor contests, in which chiefly company teams took part for various cups. B team of the Regiment entered for some of these and scared some companies out of them, but others not so fearsome, such as "G" and "H" went in to take their chance with the rest. H Company certainly have established a place for themselves in Company Football to which few were sanguine enough to aspire a year or two ago. They went in for a systematic course of training, and once more it has been demonstrated that training is the weight that turns the scale in the game of football. But training is not all, and although it goes perhaps half way, talent has to account always for its share of success. Losing as they did so many of their old champions in the football field, new representatives have had to be found and this always means some delay in getting a final team together for training. From all accounts, however, there seem to be one or two promising footballers in the hill detachments, who will be useful when we can catch them at head-quarters.

Park Challenge Cup.—In the first round "G" were drawn against "H," and after a good struggle were forced to acknowledge a defeat of two goals to nil. Following up their success "H" next proceeded to dispose of the 79th Company, R. G. A., and this in a most thorough manner, winning by five goals to love. This placing them in the semi-final, they were now attacked by the Mint team, and greatly to their credit repeated their score against "G" Company, in spite of the fact that many of Calcutta's prominent players were in the Mint team, among them being Peak, the goal-keeper. Play was fast throughout, but the training of "H" Company determined the result. To Campbell and Grant fell the honour of scoring the two goals. The final was played against the Regimental B team to which "H" eventually succumbed after a plucky struggle. Coventry played well in this match for B team, and they took the Cup.

Gladstone Cup.—"G" and "H" Companies again met in the first round of this competition and again the score was two goals to love for "H." The 79th Company, R. G. A., were to have played "H" next, but they scratched, leaving their adversaries in the final. "H" now had to meet a bare-footed team calling themselves National Sporting Club, but they had all their own way, and the game ended at three goals to love in their favour. In the first half there was only one goal scored—by Dawson—owing to there being a jheel, or, Hindustani, pond of rain-water in front of the National's goal, but two more were added after half time. "H" Company thus carried off the Cup.

Victoria Cup.—Owing to an easy win from the Boys' Sporting Club, and a scratch by the Sporting Union, "H" team are in the final.

(We regret we have received no news of the doings of the other Company teams.—*Ed.*)

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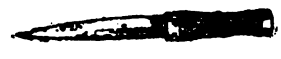

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The Natural History of the Mosquito.

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It is only within the past few years, since the theory that the mosquito was mainly responsible for the spread of malarial fever, gained general acceptance in the medical profession, that the life and habits of this interesting insect have been at all carefully studied, and much still remains unknown concerning it.

Mosquitos are divided into two great families, Culex and Anopheles, each family being again subdivided into several distinct species, all of which, however, though differing in colour, size, and slightly in form, retain the special family characteristics. The familiar irritating, singing, biting torment of our sleepless nights is the Culex, and so far at least as malarial fever goes is harmless to man. Anopheles is, as a rule, a smaller mosquito, is mute, and his bite does not sting at the time of infliction, which makes him the more dangerous, as he is now considered by most medical experts to be the sole carrying agent of the malarial microbe.

There is no difficulty in distinguishing between these two families, Watch a full-grown member of each family rest on the wall of your room, and you will never mistake them again. Culex always sits with his body parallel to the wall, with his head held below the line of his body, as it were tucked into his shoulders, and when really feeling comfortable and quite at ease with his hind legs stuck out well behind him raised above the line of his body. After a really good dinner on some succulent recruit she—I say *she* advisedly as only the female mosquito sucks blood—frequently squats close to the wall, and at these times it takes a lot to disturb her. Anopheles on the other hand sits with his body at right angles to the wall, his head close to it and in the same line as his body. His hind legs also frequently protrude, but always a little below the line of his body. In this position he closely resembles a small pin stuck into the wall.

The heads of Culex and Anopheles also differ considerably as do those of male and female in each family, but without a powerful glass the difference is hard to discern except in the case of the male Culex, who generally carries a pair of beautifully feathered antennæ.

The life of the male mosquito is ephemeral indeed, for, having fecundated the eggs of the female, he dies at once. What he eats during this brief existence is not known, but it is certain he does not suck blood. The female lives on the average for three days, but if lightly and regularly fed she will sometimes live for eight and even twelve days. Usually after a big feed she proceeds to some pool of water and there lays her eggs. Sometimes returning for another feed and repeating the process next day, but usually dying beside her eggs. Culex will lay her eggs in any pool, tank or vessel of still water, depositing them in curious boat-shaped masses many thousands at a time. Anopheles will only lay in semi-stagnant pools where there are plenty of weeds and algæ to feed the larvæ when hatched, she takes longer to complete laying than Culex, and the eggs are deposited in the water. Mosquitos are said always to return to their birthplace to lay their eggs, and as they have constantly to return to the pool for this purpose, they never wander far from it, seldom more than 200 yards.

In from 36 hours to three days, according to the temperature of the air and water, the eggs are hatched and the larvæ, lively shrimp-like little fellows, escape into the water. Their first act usually is to devour the corpse of their mother, and that being insufficient to stay their cravings of a voracious appetite they set about eating each other. Each of these tiny rascals has a curious breathing tube just above his tail, and has frequently to lie at the top of the water with this tube on the surface. Even in the larvæ the distinction between the families is marked, their position in the water just reversing that of their adult progenitors on the wall. Culex hangs head downwards while Anopheles lies parallel with the surface. In Anopheles the head is always black, in Culex it is the uniform dull whity-brown of the remainder of the body. For some days they remain thus, the skin gradually hardening till they reach the pupæ stage, becoming more shrimp-like than ever and moving about their pool by quick jerks of the head and tail. Then a few days later Master Pupa betakes himself to the surface of the water clinging on to any weed or floating substance he can find. Suddenly his shrimpy coat parts in the middle, falls off and floats away leaving a full-fledged mosquito sitting on the precarious raft. For a couple of hours or so he sits there gathering strength or perhaps courage to test a new element, then spreading his wings off he flies to work his wicked will on man and beast.

It should be noted that Anopheles is a purely domestic mosquito, never breeding more than a few hundred yards from human habitation, while Culex breeds freely in any jheel, pool or damp jungle. Anopheles being our worst enemy, her domestic habits should be a great help to us in getting rid of her. This can be done by finding her breeding pools, filling them up if possible, or if not, then clearing them of all weeds and green stuff, and in larger pools spreading a thin film of oil over them. This excludes the air, prevents the larvæ using their breathing tubes, and kills them in a few minutes.

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With the 3rd Battalion in South Africa.

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Williston is an out-of-the-way place, and warm through the day, but we are now (8th July) having cold nights with hard frost in the early morning. We are tired of half rations, on which we have been subsisting for a considerable period, and worst of all we have had no tobacco or matches on the line for nearly two months.

* * * *

The Battalion has now got so broken up, that it is better to follow each Company's movements.

"A" Company, Capt. Home.—After a considerable delay at Beaufort West, the road to Fraserburg being still shut. The Company moved up to Victoria Road and joined Blockhouse Head Column, which was making its way *vid* Canarvon to Williston and Calvinia, taking up position on the line with Lange Kuil as head-quarters.

"B" Company, Major Middleton.—This Company remained at De-Aar forming detachments for Blockhouse duty on the De-Aar Stauwpoort Line: also Convoy duties to Britstown. The best bit of marching was done by 50 R. and F. of the Company under Major Middleton, who put in 34 miles in 23 hours. On the 13th April Major Middleton received telegraphic orders to proceed to Williston, there to be Commandant and Deputy Administrator over about 7,500 square miles of territory with a population entirely rebel. The Company was taken over by Capt. Baillie Hamilton, 2nd Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, who came out attached to the Battalion. The Company was afterwards employed on Sangar duty on the main line, and after a time got orders for the Canarvon-Calvinia Blockhouse line, when, after a trek of about three weeks, they took up their position with head-quarters of Company at Kleinhodjliesfontein. After peace was declared, the Company marched to Williston to form the garrison.

"C" Company, Lord George Dundas.—Major Scott Plummer having been appointed Staff Officer to Col. Alexander, 10th Hussars, Commanding Blockhouse line from Canarvon to Williston, Lord G. Dundas took command, and with the Company joined Blockhouse Head Column, being stationed at first on the line with head-quarters at Gorass and afterwards at Brandwacht on the Rhenoster River. 2nd Lt. Benge, with 20 men, held the Droogteputs Post, and afterwards marched into Brandwacht and Calvinia, where the Company concentrated after peace was declared.

"D" Company, Capt. Downie.—After a month's stay at Sutherland it was relieved by a detachment, Prince Alfred's Capetown Volunteers, and marched back to Matjesfontein, from whence it proceeded on Sangar duty on the main line, up and down between Richmond Road and Rhenoster siding. This Company had the misfortune to lose by death from enteric Pte. Wm. Stevenson, the Proprietor of the "Golden Lion" at Stirling. It afterwards moved up to Williston, and after peace was proclaimed went back to Victoria Road. Capt. Downie and 6 R. and F. left for home for the Coronation Ceremonies.

"E" Company, Capt. Rouse.—After leaving the line, they marched to Canarvon and formed part of the garrison; afterwards being placed on the Blockhouse line, with half a Company at Waal Kraal, and the other half at Kleinhodgtesfontein, under 2nd Lt. Pearson. This half is now in Calvinia, and the other in Victoria Road. Lt. Ker and the maxim gun followed the Blockhouse head column and are now at Calvinia.

"F" Company, Capt. Baillie Hamilton.—On being relieved at Simonstown by the 3rd East Surrey Regiment went on Sangar duty and also convoy duty on the main line about Richmond Road. It finally marched up the Blockhouse line under 2nd Lt. Ker and took up its position with head-quarters at Rooi Laagte. After peace, it marched to Calvinia.

"G" Company, Capt. Anderson.—After relief at Simonstown and Durban Road was first at Gorras, and then formed the garrison at Williston, holding the local defences. After peace, it marched to Victoria Road.

"H" Company, Lt. Tonden.—Remained at Simonstown till relieved by 3rd East Surrey Regiment, and then went with "F" Company, finally taking up position at Waal Kraal in relief of half "E" Company.

At present the Battalion is distributed thus:—On the march to Victoria Road, under Lt.-Col. Colquhoun. "D," half "E," "G" and "H" Companies, there to be stationed. "A" Company at Canarvon: "B" Company at Williston, and "C," half "E" and "F" Companies at Calvinia, with the maxim, under Major Mackenzie, who is O. C. Troops at that town. One of these Companies has been ordered to Clan William. Colonel the Duke of Montrose received about 200 surrenders at Calvinia. He has now proceeded home on leave and Lt.-Col. Colquhoun commands.

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The Battalion has been highly complimented on its good work along the Blockhouse line by various high officers. They are in splendid health and still some 920 strong all ranks.

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Lt. Lord George Dundas has been granted a commission and joins the NINETY-THIRD, may good luck follow him.

A. H. M.

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Home and Depot Notes.

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A party of over 100 from the Details (8th Provisional Battalion) proceed as a representation to the Coronation on 9th inst. and a party of about 20 under Lieutenant McPherson proceed from the Depôt as an advance party for pitching tents in Kensington Gardens.

Sgt.-Major J. M. Lindsay has been selected as Sgt.-Major of the Composite Battalion of Representatives from Scotch Regiments and proceeds to London on the 6th.

Capt. Campbell, 4th A. & S. Hrs. (of the Depôt) has been appointed Camp Adjutant.

Now that the war has been brought to a successful termination, parties of time-expired N. C. O's and men are arriving daily. Amongst the officers who have come home, we notice the name of Colonel Urmston. The gallant Colonel has just been commended by Lord Kitchener for his conduct during the war.

Major Irvine and 214 reservists and time-expired men are due in England on 9th August.

The third Volunteer Active Service Coy. under Major Black arrived in Stirling yesterday after a short service in South Africa.

A draft of about 160 men proceeded from the Details to South Africa last week for the purpose of relieving men who are due for transfer to the reserve. The 1st South African Battalion, it is rumoured, will remain for another year, come home for a year, and then go out again for the usual term of foreign service. It has also been rumoured that the 2nd Battalion will go to Hong-Kong shortly, and that another two years will see them home in Scotland. In all probability a draft will be sent out from home early in the trooping season in order that some of your time-expired men may be relieved. It is not expected that there will be much objection to this in India as from all accounts a good many will be glad to set foot in England again. Lieutenant Sandeman called at the Depôt last week, and is looking very fit and well.

Colonel Trotter who, on retirement from the Command of the District, was appointed Brigadier-General of the 34th Brigade, Field Army, has just carried his Brigade through a very successful and useful Camp at Barry. The new Drill (Infantry Training, 1902) has been brought into vogue without delay, and appears to be an improvement on the old training.

Although just newly published, a number of the younger N. C. O's of the Depôt have passed the professional examination to Corporal and Sergeant in the new drill, and should the 93rd be "lucky" enough to secure any of them, you will find them very useful.

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An Army Order has been issued which states that:—Soldiers who, under ordinary circumstances, would have been transferred to the Army Reserve on the completion of four or eight years' service, but who have been compulsorily retained with the colours under Section 88 of the Army Act beyond those periods, or beyond the further period for which they may have voluntarily extended their service, will be granted, on demobilisation, a furlough-gratuity (pay, ration, and messing allowance) of seven days for each calendar month, or portion of a month, of such compulsory retention. The furlough-gratuity will be granted in addition to any gratuity that may be due under the Pay Warrant. It will be granted to soldiers who extend their service as well as to those who are transferred to the Reserve or are discharged. In the case of a soldier transferred to the Reserve, the date of his transfer will be the day following the expiration of the period covered by the furlough-gratuity. The amount due will be paid to him in instalments.

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The Oldest Pensioner in Glasgow.

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Among the thousands who drew their pensions in the Glasgow District on Tuesday last (11th July 1902), Private William Henderson of the old 91st Highlanders ranks as the oldest. In a short crack which our representative had with him in his house at Bluevale Street, Dumistown, he learned that the old veteran had been in receipt of a pension since 1861. In that year he was discharged from the army having completed twenty-one years' service. He joined his regiment at Glasgow in 1839, and of his twenty-one years of Military life over fifteen were spent in South Africa. The long series of Kaffir wars kept the British troops in Africa fully engaged, and of this period Private Henderson has many exciting incidents to relate. He was an eye witness of the subjection of the Cape (coloured) Rifles after they had mutinied, and was with the 91st through all the dreary fighting of their fifteen years' occupation. Good shooting counted a lot in Africa as early as 1846, and an interesting story to the point is that told of Major (afterwards Lieut.-Col.) Campbell. This officer was in command of the Block Drift when it was attacked by the Kaffirs, and selected as a suitable position for himself the top of a school-house. He was known as a good shot, and on this occasion told off four men to load his rifles for him: so well did he shoot that one of his assistants forgetting the officer's rank and overcome with admiration leapt up beside him and slapped him on the back with the exclamation "Weel done, Sojer!" Campbell considered this tribute from the honest-hearted fellow as worth a dozen from his superiors. The recent fighting in South Africa was keenly followed by the old veteran, who is now unfortunately almost confined to his house at 23, Bluevale Street, where he has lived for over thirty years. He holds his war and good conduct medals, and despite his long severance from the army follows closely all the news items of a military nature.—"*Weekly News.*"

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The Boer War.

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Notes from my Diary.

By No. 6547, Private John Macdonald.

On the receipt of the news, that the Ninety-First were for service in South Africa, we left Dublin on the 26th October 1899 and embarked at Queenstown on the S. S. "Oceana" on the 27th. On our arrival at St. Vincent we received the news that Ladysmith was besieged. With the exception of the death of Colour-Sergt. Hope, the remainder of the voyage to Capetown was uneventful. On arrival at Capetown orders came for the Right-half Battalion to parade at once and entrain for De Aar. We stopped for a few days at De Aar and then got further orders to proceed as far as the Orange River. We only encamped at Orange River for one day, when a telegram came to say that we were to proceed at once and join General Lord Methuen's force. That night we bivouacked at Kolkliegte, a small farm on the Orange Free State Border. At 3 A.M., the next morning, we received a sudden order to attack the enemy, who had taken up a position on the North and South sides of the Modder River. The strength of the enemy was reckoned at about eight thousand men under the command of "Piet Cronje," who had arrived from Mafeking. The 91st started off as rear guard to the Division, but very soon found themselves in the firing line. This was the first time that many of our men were under fire, and probably the first time that many of us knew what thirst meant. We got within 1,800 yards of the Boer's position, but from there were not able to advance on account of the hail of lead which the enemy pumped upon us. The artillery were not able to make much impression on the enemy. It was in this action that General Methuen was slightly wounded, so the command devolved on General Colville. Next morning it was found that the enemy had evacuated their position, so we crossed the river. It was then that we could see the effect of our artillery fire. All the houses near the river were riddled with shrapnel and many dead Boers were found inside them. In this engagement we were in action for 14 hours and lost 120 rank and file killed and wounded. For the next two days we spent our time collecting whatever food the different farms afforded. From our present encampment we had a good view of the hills, which the Boers were occupying, but with the exception of slight skirmishes with the enemy nothing of importance happened till the 9th December, when the blue jackets, with "Joe Chamberlain," their 4·7, and some mounted troops, went out and took up a position about 7,000 yards from the enemy. The chief object of this movement was to test the capabilities of the 4·7, when using lyddite. On the 10th instant the Highland Brigade which had now been formed under General Wauchope, moved out of camp in a drenching rain and halted about 6 miles from Magersfontein. The artillery then opened fire on the Boer position and the Boers replied back with their big guns, thus revealing the plan of their position. Our guns were kept in position the whole night. At midnight we arose and started our night march. It was pitch dark and a thunderstorm was raging in our vicinity—a suitable night for a night attack. Everything went well until we were within 200 yards of the enemy's position, when suddenly a rifle was discharged by accident, and before we had time to realize what had happened it seemed as if hell had opened upon us. The storm of bullets was so thick and incessant that I cannot imagine how so many of us survived. The blow was so unexpected that the whole brigade staggered and fell back. Recovering from our surprise we took up another position a little way back and once more advanced, but could make no impression on the enemy, who were so cunningly entrenched. General Wauchope and many officers fell at the first volley. In a few minutes hundreds of the Highland Brigade were lying dead and writhing with wounds. The only matter of surprise was that the whole Brigade was not annihilated. Next morning the artillery opened a tremendous fire on the Boer position, which forced the enemy to retire. The ambulance was kept busy all that day, bringing in the dead and wounded. General Wauchope's body was found in one of the Boer trenches as were also many of our men. In that engagement our casualties were two officers killed, five officers wounded, one of whom died from his wounds, and ninety-seven of the rank and file were killed and wounded. After Magersfontein there was a long and weary wait for reinforcements, it being evident that we had not sufficient troops to cope with the enemy. With the exception of a few artillery duels the remainder of December passed off quietly for us, but not so for the Boers, who were incessantly having night alarms in their camp. Early in January Lord Roberts arrived in South Africa and took command of the British forces. On February 3rd the Highland Brigade, now under General Sir Hector Macdonald, moved out of camp and took up a position at Koodoosberg Drift, and started to fortify it. On the 9th February we arrived at Modder River, where Lord Roberts was stopping. Next morning the Regiment was paraded and Lord Roberts made us a speech, complimenting the Regiment on the splendid work they had done in the campaign so far. A day or two after we received orders to proceed by train as far as Enslin, where we joined our new division under General Sir H. E. Colville. Early next morning we commenced our march to invade the Orange Free State. (*To be continued*).

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Lecture by Rev. Principal Morrison.

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A lecture was delivered in the Regimental Theatre on the 3rd September, by the Rev. Dr. Morrison, Principal of the General Assembly's Institution of the Church of Scotland. It may interest our readers to know that this Institution was founded so far back as 1830 by the celebrated Dr. Duff and is recognized as the oldest Institution of the kind in India, "for it was here that the system, now all but universal, was first introduced—the system of imparting the highest forms of knowledge, including sound Christian instruction, through the medium of the *English* language, instead of Bengali or Sanskrit, which had previously been exclusively favoured by the Government, by Oriental scholars, and even by missionaries themselves." Dr. Morrison has been connected with the Institution, as Professor and Principal, for the long period of nineteen years, and his long residence in the country and thorough knowledge of things Indian, joined to his scholastic attainments, make him an ideal lecturer on such a subject as that which he chose, *viz.*, "India's Geography, India's History."

Dr. Morrison began by pointing out that in the history of all countries the influence of geographical peculiarities was to be traced. The history of England, for example, had been greatly influenced by the fact of Great Britain being an island. In India the influence of geography upon history was peculiarly marked. The first outstanding feature of the geography of India was the isolation of the country, shut in towards the North by the enormous mountain-range of the Himalayas and in other directions by the sea. To this isolation, the lecturer believed, the exclusiveness of many native customs was to be attributed.

The isolation of India had, however, been broken into both by land and sea. By land invaders had come through the passes of the Himalayas, chiefly from the North-West, but sometimes also from the North-East. During this period of invasion by land, one fact in Indian history stood out with remarkable prominence, namely, that all the most decisive battles had been fought near Delhi and Agra, with the consequence that the capital of India was always to be found in that neighbourhood. Here, again, geography lent valuable aid for the explanation of history. The neighbourhood of Delhi was the point from which the largest area of level ground in India could be commanded, for it was in touch both with the Punjab to the N.-W. and the plain of the Ganges to the S.-E. These two great plains, almost forming one, were the most fertile part of India: the most populous: the part containing most cities. Thus to have command of these two great plains was to rule India: hence the importance, during the period of invasion by land, of holding the neighbourhood of Delhi.

Passing to the period in which India had been invaded by sea, the lecturer pointed out that during this period it was natural to suppose that the country which held the sea would also hold India: and this was historically the case, the Dutch and Portuguese successively establishing themselves before the coming of French and English, and the struggle ending in favour of the latter. It was again natural to suppose that under the altered conditions sea-ports would become the most important cities: the importance of Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras fully bore out the supposition. The holding of the premier place by Calcutta was also to be explained on geographical grounds: in earlier times it gave more ready access than any other sea-port to the richest parts of India.

Dr. Morrison concluded by pointing out that many characteristic features of Indian climate and Indian customs were most easily explained by reference to the geographical features of the country. Famines were due to insufficiency of rainfall in certain districts, but that in turn was greatly due to physical configuration—as in the West, where the Western Ghats intercepted much of the rain which otherwise would fall over a wide area. The rapidity with which the knowledge of English and the adoption of English customs had spread from Calcutta through Bengal and up towards the North-West was due to the spread of British influence in the same direction: but that in turn, as pointed out at an earlier stage of the lecture, was due to the geographical causes which made the route towards the North-West the most easy means of obtaining the products of the richest part of the country. Even in religious matters the climate conditions, induced by geographical features, went far to explain both the absorbed meditation of the fakir and the petty details with which the religion of the ordinary native was concerned.

The lecture, which was profusely illustrated by maps showing topographical elevation, rainfall, famine areas, region of former Capitals, spread of British influence and education, etc., was listened to with marked appreciation by a fairly large and very attentive audience. A cordial vote of thanks to the lecturer brought the proceedings to a close.

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An Oration given at Calcutta on the "New Dreel."

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The "New Dreel! Imph!"; and so expressing he drew his face into a network of wrinkles, everyone of which gave off a separate kind of disdain. "New Dreel!" continued he, after having again brought back his features to their original smoothness—"New Drill," indeed! What's in it tae mak' it new, man its jist like this. Wid ye ca 'a' pair o' breeks o' ye'r faithers cut doon for ye when ye were a wean—wid ye ca' them new? No, very likely! Weel its jist the same wi' this new dreel The dreel's no' new; its you'r only new fangled wi' it. "But what wid ye ca' this assembly fermentation? That's mibbe new;" conjectured one who sat on his box taking nails from his shoe with his bayonet. "Assembly Congregation," commenced again the orator, is the thing ye mibbe mean; if sae its as auld as the American dissolution, when the man that wis the laddie that never tell't a lee gaithered taegether the Colonies for a conferessence. They had nae dreel there, an' had o' coorse tae gether the best way they could, an' sae the Assembly Congregation wis invented, wheech after a' means a crood, an' in which crood if there's a when o' rifle barrels sticking up ower the heads o' the folks its ca'ed battalion dreel." "Haud awa' man," exclaimed the same who had been at the commencement extracting nails from his shoe with his bayonet and who had now broken the point. "Haud awa' man, a crood! Dang it man what dae ye tak' us for, a lot o' numskulls that dunna un'erstan' the difference between a crood an' a regiment o' the line. Dreel at any time is this. Its certain ideas grun' doon so as tae mak' me or you or the likes o' us un'erstan' what we hae tae dae in the time o' war. In such war time tae, the rools that we hae learned in the dreel square hivna' tae be stuck fast an' ticht tae, but on'y as they serve as a sort o' guide tae oor inborn instict o' self preservation in sae much as sich will tend tae the prodoocin' o' ae end, an' end wheech o' coorse is victory. As for the Assembly Congregation as ye ca' it, there's this much in it, there's a freedom for action in it that wisnae in the auld quarter colum'." "Quarter colum', or colum's ½ or colum's mustard, luse me on th' auld dreel whar a thing wis ca'ed by its name," roared the interrupted stumper. "What dae ye ca' that thing "form squad," is there ony freedom o' action in it, an' for'by its the auld right an' left form un'er a new fangled name. Look tae at the new skurmishing order o' things. Och man! my noddles dizzie yet in the mixture maxture there wis when th' order cam' tae extend tae twa paces interval when we were mairchin' in fours. Losh when I wis dune runnin' I fin' mysel' very neer hospital, in fact I wid hae been at Bombay skurmishing yet if no' stuppit frae the want o' breath. An' look agen: see the dreel we hae for mairchin' intae action wi'. In the case o' a battalion there's four companies in front wi' sae mony yairds between them an' four ither companies behin' at 300 yairds distance walkin' before the space between the companies fornint them. That's they say a kin' o' mairchin' as in a way protects a body o' men frae shairpnel fire. Noo the thing is this in dreel, dangers a thing that should never be hinted at. In the speerit o' the British airmy (that pairt frae Scotland) danger or a thocht o' danger's no' there. The on'y danger thocht o' by us is the danger o' being fear't. When I wis a kid an' taken my parretch oot o' a coggie wi' a horn spune,"—but here someone threw a blanko sponge at the orator, which striking him on the mouth caused him to subside into an open kit box handy, where he disappeared like a jack-in-the-box.

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Obituary.

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It is with deep regret that we have to report the death of Captain E. S. Wood, which took place in London on 15th July 1902. As an old Crimean and Mutiny Officer of the Regiment he was well known to most of us and a chat with him was a pleasure not likely to be forgotten. It was a curious chance that brought him into connection with the Regiment again at one of the identical places where he had seen fighting with it. The Regiment was camped almost on the same spot in 1857 as it was in 1898 and 1899, and *à propos* of the floods we experienced in 1899, Captain Wood used to tell stories about it being flooded in those days when the 93rd were camped there after the attack on Bareilly.

Captain Edward Septimus Wood joined the 93rd in 1855, February 9th, served as a Lieutenat in the Crimea after the fall of Sebastapol; also in the Indian Mutiny, including the relief of Lucknow, operations at Cawnpore and battle of the 6th December 1857, pursuit to Serai Ghat, passage of the Kala Nudder, and occupation of Futtehgarh and the siege and capture of Lucknow. He become Captain 22nd December 1863, and retired in 1867 being appointed Conservator of Forests, Oudh Circle. Captain E. S. Wood had the Indian Medal with two clasps.

He had been a familiar figure with us both in Ranikhet and Bareilly for the last three or four years, and went home last year, with the intention of coming out again.

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Ninety-third Calendar for October 1902.

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1 W. Establishment raised to 25 officers, 43 sergeants, 21 drummers and pipers and 820 rank and file=909, 1877. Tochi Campaign: return of second column to Datta Khel from Khaza Valley, 1897.
2 Th. Returned to Sheranni from 2nd Khaza column, 1897.
3 F. Zowe column under General Egerton left Sheranni, 1897.
4 S. NINETY-THIRD on H. M. frigate *Galetea* and troopship *Tyne* left Newfoundland for Sunderland, 1815.
5 S.
6 M.
7 Tu. New colours presented by Duke of Wellington at Canterbury, 1834; these colours were carried through Crimean Campaign and are now in Glasgow Cathedral. Murree Football Cup, won, 1896.
8 W.
9 Th.
10 F. Wing from Sialkot to Lahore for Durbar, 1864; Sir John Lawrence, K.C.B., Viceroy and Governor-General of India. Battalion leaves Ranikhet for Shahjahanpur to guard Boer prisoners of War, 1901.
11 S.
12 S. Fourth attack of cholera at Peshawar necessitating move into camp, 1862. Frontier Medals distributed, Chaubattia, 1898.
13 M. Canterbury for Weedon by detachments, 1834.
14 Tu. Canterbury for Weedon, 1834. Battalion arrives Shahjahanpur, 1901.
15 W. Canterbury for Weedon, 1834.
16 Th. Halifax for Quebec, 1838.
17 F. Siege of Sevastopol commenced, 1854. Four companies to Ferozepore, 1864.
18 S. Tochi Campaign.—Return of Zowe column to Sheranni, 1897.
19 S. Arrival of Boer prisoners of War at Shahjahanpur, 1901.
20 M. Lieut.-Colonel Rothe retired, 1853.
21 Tu. William Bernard Ainslie, Lieut.-Colonel, 1853.
22 W. Head-quarter Wing left Chaubattia for Almora manœuvres, 1898.
23 Th. Arrived Guernsey from Fort George, 1800; fully armed and equipped. Establishment reduced to 35 sergeants, 22 drummers, 650 rank and file, 1817.
24 F.
25 S. NINETY-THIRD disembarked, Sunderland from Newfoundland, 1815. Battle of Balaclava, the "Thin Red Line" of glorious memory, 1854. Tochi Campaign; third Khaza column left Sheranni, 1897.
26 S.
27 M. Embarked by detachments at Liverpool for Dublin, 1835. Returned, Sialkot, from Lahore, December 1864.
28 Tu.
29 W. Embarked Liverpool for Dublin, 1835. Arrived Quebec from Halifax, 1838. Colonel F. W. Traill-Burroughs relinquished Command, 1873. Returned from Almora manœuvres, 1898.
30 Th. William Macbean, Lieut.-Colonel, 1873.
31 F. Arrived Montreal from Quebec, 1838. Tochi Campaign; Sudda Khan, Chief of the Mudda Khel Waziris, surrendered to General Corrie Bird Inzar Kuch, 1898.

"The Harangue."

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For hours they had in deep debate,
Discussed the wheres and whys
Of how the "New Pay System" would
Increase their agonies.

Up sprang the oldest veteran there
In service and promotion,
And slowly forth he poured the flood
Of sorrow and depression.

"Comrades! Chums! and fellow Sergeants!
One with me in sorrow,
Alack! alack! that I have lived
To think so of to-morrow.

"When I a bare-faced laddie was
My thoughts ne'er went beyond the day,
And never rose beyond the height
Of messing and my pay.

"When first was served the dog's leg here,
I saw before me rise
The ladder up which I should mount
To slung-swords and the skies.

"When Corporal, I was next promoted
There mingled in my dream,
A hope of bringing on the strength
My bonnie wife Jean.

"When next I served the three up here
And had to se'l a bunk,
I dimly saw as through a mist
The army was a funk.

"If ocht went wrong, of course 'twas I
On whom all blame was laid,
As being there of rank and pay
The very latest made.

"Howe'er all that I've long survived
To live that I may drink
With you to-night a curse upon
This "New Pay System" jink.

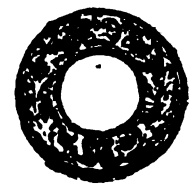
"I've swore it once, I'll swear it now,
I'll register for home
And leave the regiment alone,
And go the way I came

"If not I'll drink—ah yes I'll drink
Myself again to private,
For if they force this system on
I swear *I'll* no' have it."

'Mid cheering great, he sat him down
To where his chair was last,
But some one it had drawn away
And he of course was cast

Beneath the table and the feet
Of those who stamped applause,
Where battered he in glory lay
The hero of his cause.

—:o:—



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Ranikhet Notes.

—o—

The Sergeants gave a dance in the gymnasium, Standing Camp, on Wednesday, the 20th August. The band of the 5th D G's ably officiated and the evening was much enjoyed by a large number, including all the officers of the Standing Camp. As a proof of its success the dancing did not flag till about 4 A.M.

—o—

FOOTBALL.

1st Devonshire Regiment versus *Standing Camp.*—A most exciting and capital game of football between the Devons and the Standing Camp took place on the Kumpoor Square on the 26th August. The ground was in capital condition at the start, but before half time the rain came down in torrents and did not clear till close on the call of time. The game aroused great interest and a large crowd assembled to see it, both teams being up to their full strength.

The Standing Camp winning the toss kicked off, Billingham at once passing to the forwards, who led off with a determined attack on the Devonshire goal. The defences were, however, equal to the occasion and returned well, their forwards taking advantage of it to carry the ball into Dookhet ground.

Play now was carried on in various parts of the field until the ball glanced off one of the Standing Camp backs and found a resting place in the net. This lent zest to the game and there was some fast play ending in a good run down by the right wing of the Camp team, which resulted in Mr. Forbes scoring an equalizing goal amid great applause. Both teams now seemed determined to get the lead and some fine play by Mr. Forbes was seen, the run down ending, however, in Billingham sending the ball over the bar. From the kick-off the Devon forwards made a vigorous assault on their opponents' defence, which ended in a kick into touch. From the throw in the ball was carried from the Standing Camp Goal by a good pass from Devenport to Noble down to the Devon Goal, but the Goal-keeper saved a capital shot from Noble. The rain which now began, did not seem to damp the ardour of the teams, but half time sounded with the score still standing at one goal each.

Soon after the kick-off Ryde placed a fine shot, which was as well fisted out by the Devon Goal-keeper. From a corner Devenport showed excellent judgment, but the backs saved the situation and for a short time the Devons looked like scoring, but Mintin getting possession passed to Ryde who eluded the Goal-keeper with a swift low shot. The Devon blood was roused in their team now, and they made plucky efforts to reduce the lead but the Standing Camp team played with confidence, and, although nothing more was scored, the Devonshire defence was once again put to the test. Result—*Standing Camp, 2 goals; Devonshire Regiment, 1 goal.*

* * * *

A Boxing Tournament took place in Ranikhet on the 26th August. The first fight was between Ptes. Millar of the 93rd, who made his debut in the ring on this occasion, and White, gymnastic instructor, 1st Devonshire Regiment. White had the advantage in size and weight, but, nothing daunted, Millar stood up well and made his blows tell whenever he got an opening. The first round lasted three minutes and White showed signs of having had enough, and in the second round gave up after two minutes.

Millar then met Trumpeter Stevons of the 5th D. G's in the semi-final, who again had the advantage of size and weight over him, but the lad held his own in the first and second rounds until in the third round Stevons determined to settle it, and punished his adversary so severely in the face that he had to give in. Great credit is due to Corporal McCallum and to Private Yardley of the Norfolk Regiment who took so much pains with Millar's training. Millar is a plucky fighter and is full of heart, and should make a useful addition to our boxing world. Lieut. Forbes was among the judges.

* * * *

Rain on the morning of the 28th August did not improve the Kumpoor ground for the convalescent Depôt Sports in the afternoon. There were only two open events and Pte. Wright of the 93rd took third prize in one while Sergeant Maskell exhibited his powers of propulsion to such an advantage as to carry off the second prize in the Veteran's Race.

* * * *

We have had 39 recruits to the R. A. T. A. and 3 to the Rechabites' Lodge since we came up. The 39 R. A. T. A. men show a very good proportion of the draft, but we are hoping for more still.

——: o :——

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the parrot only says what it hears, some interesting information as to what the troops think, may be gathered from it.]

THAT it wid raither parade in boots than spats this weather.

An' that for new spats an' Hogan's tonic it has spent a' its tuppence a day.

That punkahs are goin' wi telegraphy the noo.

That i' the mornings it performs a *maiden* effort at dreel; an' that if it wisnae sae bashfu' it wid ask for a rest but the fear of arrest keeps it whisht.

That "H" Company is H-ing for mair than one cup.

That noo its getting near the Delhi wars its a deal o' exercise its taking

That he wid strike the gun by the midday gong, wi a distinct stroke between each pause.

What its cousin at Ranikhet says:—

That the Sutherland Recreation Ground will be a big hole, when it's filled in.

That names for examination in Languages A and B should be submitted at once.

That she would sooner walk oot than march it.

That she wants to know when did Robert the Bruce first enter Tillicoutry.

That they're no' birds, they're parrots.

That the on'y man in the bungalow that's got a match is awa' oot.

That she's got twa year and a twelve month back pay to come.

That it hears it needna' be nervous about not going to the Delhi War.

What its cousin at Jalapahar says:—

What he wis singing the Tea-Leafed Shamrock.

That he got three stripes instead o' a furlough.

That Ben Nevis can be seen frae here.

That he on'y got yin kick at the ba' au' it wis a miss.

That the glasses maks him see too far.

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Jalapahar Notes.

—o—

There is nothing of any interest to report from here this month beyond some little account of our football deeds. In the Dalhousie Football League, in which there are ten teams entered, we seem to be standing pretty well, as we have beaten three of the best teams so far and drawn with one. St. Joseph's School are also well up, having played and won four matches. We meet them on the 17th September, and this game is expected to be the hardest of the League.

Our team consists mainly of the two last drafts from Home and Africa, the strongest points about it being the centre forward and outside left and left back, but taken as a whole they play an excellent game, and should improve sufficiently with practice and training to make a good show against the School, the last match of the League.

Our first match was against "G" Company of the Norfolk Regiment, and resulted in an easy win of four goals to love. "B" Company then came forward and retired with a loss of three goals to love. The third match was against the K. O. S. Borderers' draft, and was a capital game resulting in a hard-fought victory of one goal to love. We then met "C" Company of the Norfolks, their best team, and though the play was bad on both sides, the match ended in a draw. We showed up poorly in the shooting, chiefly from want of practice.

If the improvement continues we ought to have a good team by the end of the League.

—:o:—

Letter to the Editor.

—o—

SIR,—I hope you will grant me a small space in the Regimental paper to suggest what I think would be a decided improvement in the running of handicaps at our Regimental Games. I think it would be a good idea if all intending competitors were to send in their names for the handicaps they intend to take part in, say eight days before the date fixed for the Games. I would then suggest that the committee draw up a list of the starters, and against each man's name his start, and order of running if it should happen to be run in heats. It could then be placed in a conspicuous place, for instance, the library, and the competitors would know their respective starts previous to running.

At present a competitor never knows his start until he turns out for the race. In some cases many of them, being on rather a short mark, would prefer to stay out of the race and reserve themselves for other events. From motives which will be readily understood, they, rather than walk back to the dressing tent, take part in the race, knowing at the same time that they have not the slightest chance of being placed. If my suggestion was carried out, it would save them a lot of useless waste of energy. In all fairness though, I must say, I have never heard much grumbling regarding the handicapping, which has always been in very capable hands. Trusting this will meet with the approval of the committee, as I can vouch for it suiting the majority of our peds.

I remain,
Yours etc.,
PED.

Sutherland.

—o—

Sutherland! Thy name to me is dear.
Tho' I have left thee many a year;
And travelled far from East to West,
Yet Thy sweet name I love the best.

For it comes far across the sea
And brings sweet memories back to me,
Of moor and lake and mountain ground
The beauties that enrich the land.

The stag in visions I can see
Bounding along by "Hope" and "Hie";
Tossing his antlers to the sky;
Surveying the landscape far and high.

And hear the cockgrouse call his train,
Where Borgie gurgles down amain;
And see the flash of silvery fin,
Where sports the trout in fair Loch Shin.

Thy sons have won thee many a name
Which Southerners have held in fame,
In weal or woe, in peace or war
Their sterling worth has gone afar.

Lucknow and Alma, Waterloo
Have heard thy clansmen's wild haloo;
And the fierce Cossacks of the Don
Have fled them back from Highlandmen.

When Balaclava's field was fought,
Sir Colin stood and feared them not,
But formed, two deep, his "Gaelic Rock"
And broke like chaff the Russian shock.

Up Alma's steep the tartans swept;
To meet the foe each clansmen leapt,
And dared the Russ to hold his guns
Against the flower of Scotia's sons.

While looking back through ninety years
What fancied sound floats in our ears,
From Waterloo's red field it comes
Above the roll of muffled drums.

The square is formed to meet the foe,
Each Cameron's breast is all aglow,
As on the squadrons dash amain
With death and fury in their brain.

Then high above the battle roar
Is heard the Piobaireachd "Peace or War,"
As from the square Mackay steps forth
With martial music of the north.

The serried ranks with cheers reply
The charging French their might defy,
But 'gainst that square they break and fly,
The square inspired by brave Mackay.

To these great deeds we love to turn
And teach our children each to learn
How in past years for Scotland's pride
Their fathers fought and bled and died.

In future years, if dangers may
Once more call forth our country's stay,
"To arms," the foremost cry be heard
"Now for the foe, charge! NINETY-THIRD!"

D. C. MACPHERSON.

—:o:—

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENT.

Lord George Dundas from the 3rd (Militia) Battalion, Princess Louise's Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, to be Second Lieutenant, dated 30th April 1902

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeants.—No. 5256, Lance-Sergeant T. Atkinson, "H" Company, dated 23rd April 1902; No. 2343, Lance-Sergeant T. Gillespie, "B" Company, dated 12th July 1902; No. 5929, Lance-Sergeant D. Stobie, "H" Company, dated 20th July 1902.

To be Corporals.—No. 5940, Lance-Corporal S. Smith, dated 23rd April 1902; No. 6832, Lance-Corporal J. Youngson, "C" Company, dated 23rd April 1902; No. 6182, Lance-Corporal A. Watt, "F" Company, dated 20th July 1902.

ANTEDATED.

Sergeants.—No. 4983, Sergeant Rutherford, "H" Company, dated 23rd April 1902; No. 3557, Sergeant F. Hiscock, "A" Company, dated 23rd April 1892.

Paid Lance-Sergeants.—No. 5929, Lance-Sergeant D. Stobie, "H" Company, dated 23rd April 1902; No. 5842, Lance-Sergeant R. Glass, "A" Company, dated 23rd April 1902.

Corporals.—No. 6098, Corporal T. Young, "A" Company, dated 23rd April 1902.

PAY OF RANK.

To be paid Lance-Corporals.—No. 5516, Lance-Corporal G. Anderson, "C" Company, dated 23rd April 1902; No. 4181, Lance-Corporal P. Malone, "B" Company, dated 23rd April 1892; No. 5170, Lance-Corporal W. Jamieson, "A" Company, dated 23rd April 1902; No. 5044, Lance-Corporal J. McMahon, "C" Company, dated 1st August 1902; No. 6391, Lance-Corporal W. Melville, "E" Company, dated 1st August 1902; No. 4530, Lance-Corporal D. McDonald, "G" Company, dated 1st August 1902.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance-Corporals.—No. 3214, Private G. Stanley, "C" Company, dated 15th August 1902; No. 5163, Private J. Allan, "D" Company, dated 18th August 1902; No. 4136, Private W. Thomas, "B" Company, dated 27th August 1902; No. 5974, Private W. McMenaman, "H" Company, dated 27th August 1902.

To be Instructors, 3rd (Cadet) Battalion, Calcutta Volunteer Rifles.—No. 2922, Lance-Corporal J. Bertram, "F" Company, dated 1st August 1902; No. 5630, Lance-Corpofal E. Ellis, "G" Company, dated 1st August 1902; No. 5618, Lance-Corporal A. McMaster, "D" Company, dated 1st August 1902; No. 5380, Lance-Corporal G. McLuskie, "H" Company, dated 1st August 1902.

To be Assistant Gymnastic Instructor.—No. 5874, Private A. Thomson, "G" Company, dated 23rd August 1902.

Signallers drawing monthly pay. Assistant Instructors.—No. 5256, Lance-Sergeant T. Atkinson, "H" Company; No. 4571, Lance-Corporal J. Hiddles, "D" Company.

Regimental Signallers.

No. 3851, Private R. Smith, "A" Company.
No. 3870, „ J. Brown, "C" „
No. 5291, Lance-Corporal R Tawse, "D" Company.
No. 5688, Private A. Cairns, "D" Company.
No. 5952, „ J. Muir, "F" Company.
No. 4792, „ G. Cunningham, "G" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 3d. per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 3698, Private F. Trant.

At 2d. per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 5244, Pte. J. Burns. | No. 4514, Pte. P. Park.
No. 5022, Lance-Corporal J. McLachlan.

"F" Company.

No. 5837, Pte. W. Lawrence. | No. 5827, L.-C. J. Clarke.
No. 5865, Pte. F. Johnstone. | No. 6028, Pte. A. Hamilton.

"G" Company.

No. 5868, Lance-Corporal J. Gilmour.

At 1d. per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 7611, Dr. R. Gunn. | No. 5189, Pte. H. Allan.

"F" Company.

No. 4642, Private J. Nolan.

"G" Company.

No. 4792, Private G. Cunningham.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted Assistant Instructor's Certificate of Signalling, dated Kasauli, 15th July 1902.—No. 4571, Lance-Corporal J. Hiddles, "D" Company.

Granted Certificate, School of Musketry, Pachmari.—No. 4567, Sergeant D. Inglis, "E" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

To complete 21 years' Service with the Colours.—No. 6910, Sergeant H. Crawford, "B" Company.

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 4369, Bandsman J. Dunlop, "C" to "B" Company.

NUMBERS ALLOTTED.

To Private William Ingram, "D" Company, No. 8423.
To Boy Francis Thomas Bennett, "D" Coy., No. 8791.

—: o :—

Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

DEATHS.

CRAWFORD.—Ada Carolina Neal, wife of Sergeant Hugh Crawford, at Fort William, Calcutta, on 7th August 1902, of heat apoplexy.

GRAHAM.—At Fort William, Calcutta, on 10th August 1902, the infant son of Captain and Mrs. R. B. Graham, aged 11 weeks and 6 days.

WOOD.—At 27 Talbot Road, Bayswater, London, on 15th July 1902, Capt. Edward Septimus Wood, late of the 93rd Highlanders, youngest son of the late Maj.-Gen. H. J. Wood, C.B., Bengal Artillery.

—: o :—

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.
Lieut. Hon. A. C. Murray, 12th K. I. G's. ...	3	0
Private Rhys Rees, "F" Company ...	2	0

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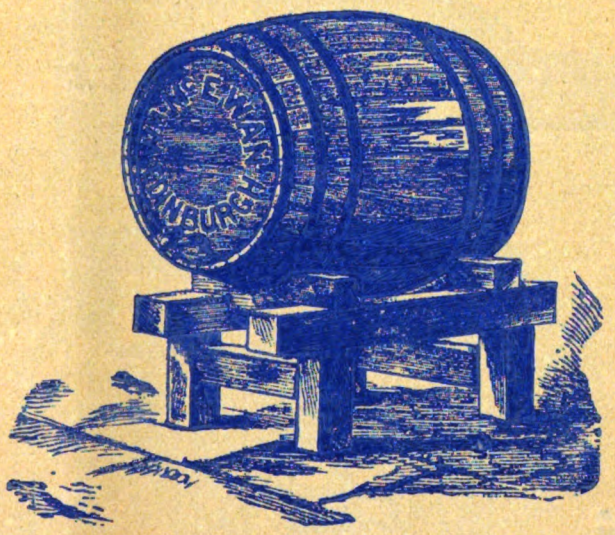

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OCTOBER 1902.

The Thin Red Line.

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Vol. VII,

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 6—Vol. VIII.] CALCUTTA—OCTOBER 1902. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

September has been a quiet month in Calcutta and we have little to report. Although innumerable details are daily pouring in in connection with the manœuvres and Durbar Camp, the main points and dates are still unaltered, and the end of January should see us "home" again in Fort William. As far as the actual Durbar concerns us, it has only been announced that "the whole of the troops will be drawn up outside, facing the amphitheatre;" so that we shall see very little of anything and will probably have to content ourselves with standing about for a considerable time in the sun, which, after all, we have been known to do before!

* * * *

The doings of the Football team in Bombay kept us for some days in suspense, and many and various were the conjectures about the result. It cannot be denied that the blow fell, by the telegram on the night of the 27th, with considerable force, but it was received quietly, and the general opinion on it was merely that the Cheshires must have had an exceptionally good team. Those who have a fixed idea that the Regiment always just fail in anything they put their hand to, shook their heads sadly as if to say "I told you so," but the more cheerful of us only thought "Better luck next time," and are oppressed by no such forebodings.

* * * *

Colonel Campbell returned at the end of the month from a two months' shoot in Kashmir, where he was successful in bagging no less than two Ibex, one of 47 inches and another of 42 inches, and two Shapoo.

* * * *

Capt. Glasfurd has also returned from shooting leave, his bag consisting of a fine Sambhur of 39½ inch head, 3 Ravine deer, and 3 Black buck, with some Quail, sandgrouse, painted partridge, and green pigeon.

* * * *

Lieut. Akers Douglas, who has been acting A.-D.-C. to H. E. the Viceroy for the last six months, rejoined head-quarters during the month, and took over command of "C" Company.

* * * *

We have heard no news of the Ninety-first now for some time, and are beginning to fear that our correspondents are too busy, at the prospect of an early return home, to favour us. The last we heard of them was that they were at Elandsfontein in July.

* * * *

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, a most interesting account of life in a Sudanese Battalion from Captain A. Sutherland. Owing to want of space we have been unable to print it this month, but intend doing so in our November number.

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From Captain Johnston Stewart also we have a letter holding out a hope of further contributions in the near future. Captain Johnston Stewart writes from Somaliland, where he is now on his way with his Regiment, to help in bringing the Mullah to book. His letter, which we publish in another column, will be read with much interest by our readers.

* * * *

The probable date of our departure for manœuvres is the 14th November. The annual inspection of the signallers will take place during the few days in camp at Umballa, when we should imagine that our signallers would make no small effort to secure a higher place than usual, the advantage of being among the first nine Battalions being now an appreciable reward in the shape of from Rs. 6 to Rs. 3-8 per mensem as against the old prize system of from Rs. 25 to Rs. 10 per annum.

* * * *

The Ranikhet and Jalapahar Detachments returned to head-quarters towards the end of the month, the former under Capt. Marshall and 2nd Lieut. Forbes, and the latter under Lieut. Douglas and 2nd Lieut. Cheape. The men are all looking bronzed and healthy, and add greatly to the appearance of the Battalion on parade.

* * * *

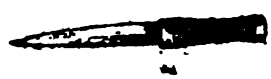
Fever has been less prevalent in the Battalion during the past month, and it is hoped that the worst of the hot weather season being now over, the ill effects of the malaria will be entirely removed by the time the Battalion goes to Delhi.

* * * *

It has now been decided that twenty-five Battalions are to form the permanent garrison in South Africa. They will, of course, have to be brought up to full strength, and this is likely to be done by an extensive system of transfers from Battalions who are going home, and may have to be carried out by offering bounties again.

If all goes well however, as it seems to promise, there is no doubt that the garrison will be considerably reduced in a few years' time, and probably will eventually be found almost entirely from the local corps and irregular mounted troops which have been formed, and the necessity of a standing army of any size will probably be reduced more and more as time goes on.

* * * *



Reminiscences of Balaklava Day, 25th October 1854.

—o—

Dedicated to Lieut.-Col. J. H. Campbell, the Officers, Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers, and men of the Second Battalion, Princess Louise's Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (late 93rd), by their old comrade, W. Forbes Mitchell, forty-eight years after.

Saint Crispin's Day, 25th October, furnishes two memorable anniversaries for the British Army—namely, Agincourt and Balaklava, standing four hundred and thirty-nine years apart. The honour of the victory of Agincourt on the 25th October 1415 belongs exclusively to England and Wales; but is there a man wearing the British uniform to-day—be he English, Irish, Scotch, or Welsh—claiming the protection of the glorious Union Jack, and holding its honour dear to him, who does not feel his blood stirred by the patriotic prayer and heroic speech which Shakespeare puts into the mouth of Henry the Fifth on the eve of the great battle when scarce ten thousand Englishmen fought and routed sixty thousand Frenchmen?

"O god of battles! Steel my soldiers' hearts,
Possess them not with fear!"
(Henry V., Act IV, Scenes 2 and 3).

Nor has Balaklava been less fortunate in its bard; for, wherever the English language is spoken, Tennyson's lines on the charges of the Light and Heavy Brigades are as familiar as household words. But in this reminiscence I will confine myself to what I saw—namely, the charge of the three hundred "Heavies" under General Scarlett, and the firm stand made by the Old 93rd Highlanders, "The Thin Red Line Tipped with Steel," in which I myself stood near the left of Captain MacGowan's or No. 4 Company, just behind the glorious old colours.

So much by way of introduction.

To come to the morning of the 25th October 1854, Sir Colin Campbell, in his command at Balaklava, kept up the old order of Picton's Divison in the Peninsula; he invariably had his whole force under arms every morning an hour before day-break, and so it was on the memorable morning of 25th October. As dawn broke a strong corps of Russian Cavalry and Artillery, supported by several battalions of Infantry (who, by the way, never came into action), could be seen marching into the valley of Balaklava. Sir Colin immediately despatched an orderly with a message to Lord Raglan, informing him that the Russians evidently meant mischief, the force being too strong for a reconnoitring party. Lord Raglan at once sent orders to Lord Lucan to bring out both the Heavy and the Light Brigades to meet this demonstration of the Russians.

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The second act was the bolt of the Turks. Across the valley of Balaklava was a chain of four small redoubts, each garrisoned by two hundred and fifty Turks—"Bona Johnnies," we of the 93rd called them. Each redoubt was armed with two or three heavy guns taken from the ships; but up to that time none of the Naval Brigade, afterwards so famous, had landed to man these guns, and they were manned by Turks. As soon as they came within range, the Russians opened fire on these redoubts with their Field Guns, and so hot and well-directed was their fire that the Turks speedily deserted the redoubts and bolted, followed by Cossacks, who closed on them, spearing them in great numbers. Squadron after squadron of the Russian Cavalry came pouring after the Turks, when, suddenly, right in front of galloping pursuers rose what Mr. W. H. Russell, the famous *Times'* correspondent, called in a phrase which has now become historical, "A THIN RED STREAK TIPPED WITH A LINE OF STEEL."

That was the 93rd Highlanders under Sir Colin Campbell, as fine a body of veterans as ever stood in battle array; and nobly that morning did they sustain the martial traditions of the Scottish race. We knew—I write "*we*" because I stood in the line—that we had no supports, nothing to stay that avalanche of charging horsemen. But our leader knew, and we knew, that our duty was to hold the position at all hazards.

In the midst of the tension, as some of the more forward of the line wished to advance to meet the charging horsemen with the bayonet, the deep voice of Sir Colin was heard to ring out:—"Steady, Ninety-third! Steady! Damn all that eagerness! Remember, men, there is no retreat from here! You must die where you stand, and I along with you, if needs be." And promptly came a reply from the ranks, from more than one voice:—"Ay, ay, Sir Colin! We'll do that, if needs be." Immediately after, the voice of Colonel Ainslie was heard:—"Ninety-third, advance!" and we advanced about ten paces to the brow of the heights. Then the Colonel sang out:—"Halt! six hundred yards and aim steady! Ready! Present! Fire!" Immediately we cast about to load, and before the smoke cleared away we were again loaded. The Grenadier Company on the right were ordered to advance fifty paces and wheel right shoulders forward. They did this steadily under Captain Ross, and taking the Russians in flank completed their route. That is the position taken by the artist in the famous picture, "The *Thin Red Line*." The Grenadier Company with Captain Ross are shown as they stood after their first volley into the flank of the Russians, whilst the leader of the Cossacks and his white charger both fell about four hundred yards in front of the line. I am not sure how many volleys were fired by the Grenadiers, but the rest of the line fired five, all by word of command. The last was sighted for 250 yards, and proved too much for the Russains. Their trumpets sounded: the squadrons immediately reined up: and, wheeling round, galloped off faster than they had come on. After reports proved that they feared an ambuscade from the firm front shown by the Ninety-third.

Before leaving this part of my reminiscence, I may state that it has often been said that only a very few of the Russians fell from the fire of the Ninety-third; but I have never seen the true explanation given of the small number that lay upon the ground. During the afternoon I went, with several others who have since joined the majority, over the plain where the Russian dead lay. They used the Astrachan saddle, with a high pommel in front and an equally high cantle behind; and every man was so strapped into his saddle with blanket and valise over the thighs that it was only when a horse came down that his rider fell to the ground. Even after receiving a deadly wound a horse will often gallop a long distance, and it was thus that even when men were killed, they were carried off the field. On the other hand, if a horse came down and his rider was unwounded, it was an easy matter for the rider to extricate himself by unbuckling the strap which went round his body. This gives a reasonable explanation (unnoticed, so far as I am aware, by historians of the battle of Balaklava) of the apparently insignificant losses of the Russians. That they were not really so was acknowledged by a party of Russian officers who visited our camp after the peace. They had been in the Balaklava charge, and admitted that nearly every man and horse that charged the Regiment was either killed or wounded.

For the rest of the morning the Ninety-third were onlookers.

I will now give my recollections of the charge of the "Heavies," the immortal THREE HUNDRED. Whilst the Ninety-third were so gallantly meeting the charging line of Russians, in obedience to Lord Raglan's order Lord Lucan had been hastening to our assistance with the Heavy Brigade, consisting of the Scots Greys and their grand old companions-in-arms the Inniskillings, with a few of the 1st Royals and the 4th and 5th Dragoon Guards. Just as the column which charged on the Ninety-third was driven off, another dense column of Russian horsemen was seen on the brow of the hill. General Scarlett, the gallant leader of the "Heavies," halted the squadrons and coolly re-dressed their ranks, as scrupulously as on parade. General Scarlett

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was a fine old soldier, simple-minded and modest, with all the qualities of a leader of men. As he looked at the descending columns of Russian horsemen he saw that they slackened their pace from a gallop to a trot and then to a walk, and finally halted near the bottom of the slope. General Scarlett was quick to detect the fatal mistake and at once seized the opportunity offered to him. Our trumpets sounded the charge, and the first line of the Heavies, consisting of the Greys and Inniskillings, went straight at the Russians. Fifty yards in front of the charging horsemen on a powerful English bay thorough-bred rode General Scarlett, soldierly and erect as on parade. In the words of the camp poet:—

"General Scarlett was leading by nearly a rood,
And although we were racing, he kept well to the fore;
Firm as a rock in his stirrups he stood,
Whilst high in the sunlight his sabre he bore."

Close behind him rode Lieut. Alexander Eliot, his aide-de-camp, who had done valiant and glorious service in the Sutlej Campaign against the Sikhs; his orderly, Shegag, a gallant soldier and splendid swordsman, and John Nelson, the trumpeter of the Greys, rode alongside of Eliot; and close behind them came thundering the Greys and Inniskillings, mad with the eagerness of battle to cut their way into the Russian horde, who outnumbered them by ten to one. (All this I learned, from the men who rode in the charge, when the battle was fought over again round many a camp fire).

When within fifty yards of the Russians, General Scarlett turned in his saddle, and, waving his sword, called:—"Come on! Come on, my gallant men!" Half a minute later he dashed into the front of the Russian column. He did not observe that a tall Russian officer moved his horse out in front of his men, placing himself in a position to cut down the daring English leader; but Lieut. Eliot saw the danger and, dashing spurs into his horse, rode straight at the Russian, who turned from his threatened attack on Scarlett and aimed a blow at his new assailant. Eliot parried it and came to the point, and his speed was such that his sword was driven up to the hilt in his Russian foe. The impetus of Eliot's rush was so great that he pulled the Russian horse and rider clean round before he could disengage his reeking blade.

Meanwhile General Scarlett had dashed past Eliot without hurt or hindrance and wedged himself among the Russians, whirling his sword over his head and dealing death right and left. Shegag, his orderly, and Nelson, the trumpeter of the Greys, following his example, were already well into the Russian column, when, to quote from Russell, "as lightning pierces through a cloud, the Greys and Inniskillings pierced through the dark mass of the Russians." The same writer continues:—"The delay was but for a moment. There was a clash of steel and a light play of sword blades in the air; and then the British red-coats disappeared again in the midst of the shaking and quivering column."

That was an anxious moment for the Ninety-third, who were looking down on the scene, when the red-coats of our gallant Greys and Inniskillings passed out of view. We saw that the Russians had thrown out two great wings to right and left of their main body, which appeared to have swallowed up our Greys and Inniskillings. The wings wheeling round completely overlapped our men and absolutely cut off their retreat. "By God! The Greys and Inniskillings are cut off, lost one and all!" were the words that rose from many a throat along the line of the Ninety-third. But there were more good men and true hurrying to the aid of the three hundred, namely, the second line of the "Heavies," consisting of the 1st Royals, the 4th and 5th Dragoon Guards, and the remaining two squadrons of the gallant Inniskillings, of whom Ould Oireland may well be proud. They did not wiat for orders, but when they saw the dark Russian wings close on their devoted comrades, there went up a shout like one voice from their ranks, whilst from more than a score of throats came the patriotic chorus:—

"Hurrah for Queen and Country!
See where the foemen surge!
Whilst fiery shell and shrapnel
Shriek forth the soldier's dirge."

The trumpets rang out the charge; "wildly the roll of the kettle-drums rang, maddening horse and man;" and with a ringing cheer and a repeating of the chorus, "Hurrah for Queen and Country," the Royal Dragoon Guards and Inniskillings, all mixed together in their dash to the rescue of their gallant comrades, crashed like a thunderbolt into the flanks of the enemy. The Russians did not observe this second avalanche dashing on their flank, and were already shaken to their core by the action of the three hundred whom they had already swallowed. These were men of tall form with long swords and big horses; and when, by sheer strength of arm, steel, and courage, they had hewn their way into the centre of the Russian mass, they were so far from being held prisoners that they were fast hewing their way out again. Reeling on all sides, and anxious to disgorge the living mass of giants whom they thought to have swallowed with such ease, the Russians were completely demoralised by the furious onset of the second line on their flanks. They swayed this way and that for a few moments and then broke in disorder,

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galloping pell-mell from the field on which they had been routed by a force which they outnumbered by ten to one. Seventy-eight of the Heavies were killed or wounded, but over five hundred of the Russians remained on the field. The moral effect was terrific. But I need not dwell on that.

As the Greys and Inniskillings were returning, they were met with a message direct from Lord Raglan from the heights above. "Well done! well done!" was Lord Raglan's message. And as they neared the Ninety-third, Sir Colin Campbell rode out to meet them, calling out:—"Greys! Gallant Greys! I am sixty-one years of age, but if I were young I would be proud to be in your ranks!"

One of the Greys, whose sword had broken close to the hilt early in the fight, had used the basket of the sword-hilt as a steel glove, and every interstice in it was crammed full of human flesh and hair. He had struck so hard that he had sprained his wrist severely enough to make it impossible for him to open his hand. The hand itself was so swollen that he could not get it out of his sword-hilt, and it took the Armourer-Sergeant of the Ninety-third an hour to cut the basket-work clear.

Such are some of my recollections of the 25th October 1854, a stirring day to look back to over the dim vista of forty-eight years. Before closing I must caution my readers not to confuse the events here recorded with the charge of the Light Brigade who rode "into the mouth of Hell," because "some one had blundered." That charge was on the other side of the hill and could not be seen by the Ninety-third.

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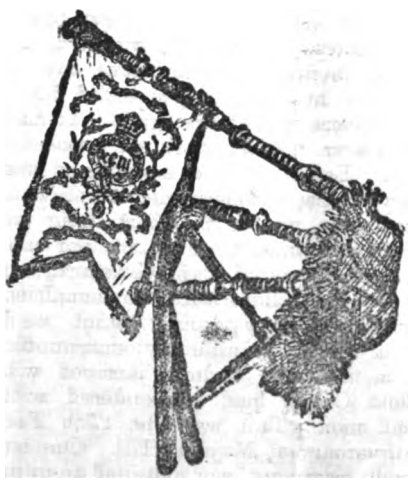

On Leave.

—o—

(Continued).

FROM GAUHATTI HIGHER UP.

Three more days up the river brings you to Dibrugarh, the steamer terminus and an important station in the midst of the tea-growing districts. The river scenery is much the same as on the lower half of the river. One afternoon I was aroused from my after-tiffin-siesta by the serang (the native skipper) running in and telling me that there was a herd of wild buffalo within 200 yards of the bank. There sure enough was a fine bull standing in the tall jungle grass. His head looked magnificent, and in a minute I had my 303 rifle out and the serang obligingly pulled up the boat for me. I made a very lucky shot, taking into consideration that I could only see the ridge of his back and his head 200 yards off, and with the first shot I got him through the shoulder with a Jeffery bullet. Then in virtually a state of nature I climbed on the roof of the boat and had five more shots at him, as he was too badly hurt the first shot to do more than hobble a foot at a time. He dropped at the 6th shot. To my great disappointment the serang declared he couldn't stop any longer as he was carrying the mails. I waited a day on my way down to look for the head, but couldn't find it. I couldn't recognise the exact place I fired from, and one might as well look for a needle in a bundle of hay as for anything in that jungle grass, unless one knows the place to within 100 yards or so. However, I hope to get the head yet, as the pilots on board the boat know the exact place. I told them that they will get large *bakshecsh* if it is forthcoming.* Getting on shore again at Dibrugarh was decidedly pleasant, as the novelty of the voyage had worn off long before the six days were over, and a 4 hours' journey by train brought me to the tea plantation, where I was to spend a fortnight.

I don't suppose many of you have seen a tea plantation, or have any idea of the various processes that have to be gone through before your "gunfire" reaches you.

The place I was on has a clearing of about 1,000 acres in the heart of a primeval forest, and every inch of it, except a few necessary roads and places for the coolies, huts, and factory, was planted with tea.

Tea is planted in straight rows about 3 feet apart and the bushes are about 3 or 4 feet high. It is a thick bush like a laurel and throws out innumerable branches from the main stem, each of these throw out shoots, and the 3, 4 or 5 young leaves at the ends of these shoots are plucked by hand to be converted into tea.

About 1,800 coolies, men, women and children, were employed.

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I happened to be there during the busiest season, and the coolies were plucking from 5-30 A.M. till 11-30 A.M. and from 1-30 P.M. to 6 P.M., seven days in the week. The same hours hold good for the two Europeans in charge. Constant supervision is necessary, or the coolies don't work properly, and pluck the coarse leaf to make up weight. The baskets are weighed at 11-30 and 6 P.M. Each coolie has to bring in 6 seers daily, all above this weight is paid for extra, and a coolie can easily double his pay of 6 rupees per mensem during the plucking season.

The green leaf is then spread out on long canvas beds to wither, which operation takes place in about seven hours After that it is taken to the factory and is rolled in its green state for half an hour or so between great steel rollers. Next, it is put through a huge conical-shaped sieve with a graduated wire mesh. The tea is put in at the narrow end and the sieve revolves. The fine leaf falls through the smallest mesh, coarser through the larger meshes. This is then collected for fermentation, which is done by spreading the tea under damp muslin cloths. Fermentation takes place in about three hours. The tea is now put over furnaces at about 240 degrees of heat and fired for three-quarters of an hour. It is now quite dry, and is as you see it in the packets. It is again put through the sieve and collected according to the different grades of quality. The grades are, working from finest to coarsest, as follows:—Broken Orange Pekoe; Flowery Orange Pekoe; Orange Pekoe; Pekoe No. 1; Pekoe; Pekoe Souchong; Pekoe Fannings; Fannings and Dust. The tea is now put into the furnaces for a final firing by these grades for half-an-hour at a temperature of 190 degrees. It is then packed into boxes lined with lead foil and soldered, and is ready for the market. Roughly speaking three days is required for each batch of tea. 1st day, plucking and withering; 2nd day, manufacturing; 3rd day, sorting and packing. The manufacturing goes on night and day, and while I was there the young fellow in charge of the manufacturing put in rather under 24 hours sleep in seven days. How's that for nights in bed!

The record day, while I was there, was 75 maunds of made tea in the 24 hours! But that is exceptional, 50 maunds per diem being about the average. The climate during the rains is infernal, the pay of the European is bad, the work is incessant, and they get virtually no leave. Personally I would rather be a golf caddy at St. Andrew's than a tea planter in Assam. But they all seem to like the work, and a cheerier more hospitable lot of fellows one couldn't find.

W. T.

* The buffalo's head has since been recovered.

The Boer War.

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Notes from my Diary.

By No. 6547, Private John Macdonald.

After a wearisome march, as rearguard to the Division, we reached the Riet River on the afternoon of the 15th February. After a short halt here, we started off again at 7 P.M. and reached the other divisions at daylight, and certainly expected to get this night in bed, but were doomed to disappointment, as at 10 P.M. we got orders to march again, and arrived outside Paardeberg on the 17th February. On the morning of the 18th, we had just brought up the water for our breakfasts, when we were ordered to parade at once and proceed against the enemy. We had advanced to within 500 yards of the enemy's position, when we received the news that some of the troops had crossed the River. The Artillery were engaged in shelling the river bed and from the flames and smoke which proceeded from the bed of the river it was apparent that some of the enemy's wagons and stores were on fire. Col. Hannay with some mounted men made a most gallant but ineffectual charge against the northern bank, which unhappily cost him his life. By this time hunger was beginning to tell on the troops, as most of us had been fighting the whole day on an empty stomach; however, "B" Company received orders to return to camp at dusk, and we were able to get some food and sleep. Early next morning we received orders to surround the enemy. Twenty men in each company were detailed to keep a sharp look-out on them, and they moved about a mile and a half on the right flank of the enemy's position, exactly opposite their laager. At midday a staff officer arrived with the news that Cronje had surrendered, whereupon we formed up in column to march down and take over the prisoners. We had hardly proceeded 500 yards, when the Boers opened fire again. It had been a false alarm. After dark we proceeded back to camp. Early on the morning of the 20th February a force of Boers tried to relieve Cronje, but they were unable to effect their purpose. The Boers continued to snipe into our camp, but with the exception of Capt. Glasfurd, who was shot in the foot, there were no casualties.

After several days, during which we formed part of a cordon completely surrounding the laager, a mounted orderly arrived with the news that Cronje had surrendered with four thousand men. This was the 27th February, the anniversary of Majuba Hill. One company from each regiment was detailed to go into the Boer laager and take over the prisoners, etc. During these few days' fighting we lost seventy-six killed and wounded. After a short rest,

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we once more started on "trek" and proceeded to Makaun's Drift, where we had a good view of the hills, which the enemy were now occupying. It was reported that the enemy were occupying a line of trenches on both sides of the river near Poplar Grove. Owing to the losses incurred by the Highland Brigade during the previous engagements, a battalion from the 19th Brigade was attached to us. On the 7th March we loaded up our wagons and proceeded to search the river banks. When we arrived there, we saw a stream of Boer wagons retiring to the East. The heavy guns in the meantime kept up a steady fire on the Boer trenches, but apparently did not do much damage. When we had proceeded a short way up the river, we came across the Boer laager. They must have been taken by surprise, for we found the food still cooking in the cooking pots. Needless to say we at once "commandeered" it and ate a hearty meal. We could see the Boers streaming away to the Eastward, and we afterwards learnt that Steyn and Kruger were amongst them. On the 12th March Major Urmston paraded the regiment and told us that Bloemfontein was forty-eight miles away, and we had four days' rations to cover the journey. On the 14th news came into camp that General French had captured the town unopposed. After some very hard marches we arrived at our destination and were rather disappointed at not going through the town, but we encamped on the face of a hill overlooking it, and a day or so after an order was published that ten men per company would be allowed to go into the town and make purchases. However, everything was terribly dear, tobacco being ten shillings a pound, jam two shillings a tin, bread three shillings a two-pound loaf, and finally there was such a rush for food that there was none left in Bloemfontein.

(*To be continued*).

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Athletics.

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FOOTBALL.

Bombay Rovers Tournament.

The Regimental Team journeyed to Bombay early in September to take part in the tournament annually held by the Bombay Rovers Football Club. In this competition they reached the semi-final stage, but had the misfortune to have to knock under to the Cheshire Regiment, the eventual winners of the tournament, by the narrow margin of one goal to love. Want of space compels us to omit a detailed account of the first two matches played. That they gave a good account of themselves was proved by the fact that, up to the semi-final stage, they were the first favourites. Let us hope for better luck in the Delhi Durbar tournament.

The following account of the match with the Cheshires is from the *Times of India* :—

The Cheshires started from the Colaba end, and after a spell of play in the centre the Highlanders worked into their opponents' territory, and the ball was sent behind. Following the kick out the Cheshire forwards dribbled to the other end, but one of their forwards shooting wildly at the critical moment the ball was sent behind. During the next two or three minutes the Cheshires penned the Highlanders in their own territory, and eventually forced a "corner," but nothing came of it, and after a while Whitehead sent the ball sailing over the cross-bar. The Highlanders then rushed away to the other end, where the ball was twice sent behind. They continued to attack, and Sheldon was called upon to run out, and saved the situation. The representatives of the Thistle were now attacking for all they were worth, and for a while the Cheshire defence was severely taxed. Their back division defended in grand style however, Raney eventually relieving with a long kick, which enabled the Cheshires to once more assume the aggressive. Madden received on the left wing, and dribbling well up passed across the field to Jarvis, who put in a hot shot. This Maywood succeeded in stopping, but before he could clear Madden came up at top speed, and put the ball into the net, and scoring for the Cheshires what proved to be the only goal of the match. After this the Highlanders played up with renewed energy, and were soon making a hot attack on the Cheshire goal. For a time it looked very much as if they would score, but Pollock eventually sent behind. The Cheshires then worked out to the centre, where play ruled fairly even during the next few minutes. After a while the Highlanders got away with some good combination, and one of their forwards beat all but Sheldon, who rushed out and saved in fine style. The game was now being conducted at a very fast pace, and "fouls" were somewhat frequent. Again attacking, the Highlanders sent in two or three shots, but each time they were well stopped, although on more than one occasion Sheldon ran too many risks. At length the Cheshires transferred the scene of operations to the other end, but their stay here was of but brief duration, for the Highlanders soon returned to the attack and forced another "corner." The Cheshires cleared in fine style, but the Argylls were soon back again, and Hogg sent in a shot which just topped the cross-bar. Then a "foul" was given against the Highlanders, which resulted in the Cheshires once more assuming the aggressive The Highlanders' defence proved sound however, and half-time arrived without any addition to the score, the Cheshires crossing over with a lead of one goal to *nil*. The Highlanders restarted, and for a time play was confined to mid field, the Cheshires eventually invading their opponents' territory, and Maywood was called upon to keep out a well-directed shot by Whitehead. After this both sides played up well and made strenuous efforts to score. Play was quickly taken from end to end, both goals being bombarded in turn. The defence of both sides proved sound however, and eventually time was called with the Cheshires winners by one goal to *nil*.

Teams.

93rd Highlanders.—Pte. Maywood, goal; Pte. Wallace and Lce.-Corpl. Silcock, backs; Corpl. Wilson, Pte. McGowan and Lce.-Corpl. McLean, half-backs; Ptes. Pollock, McKenzie, Houston, Montgomery, and Hogg, forwards.

Cheshire Regiment.—Pte. Sheldon, goal; Pte. Raney, and Lce.-Corpl. Blears, backs; Ptes. McKew, Basquill, and Preston, half-backs; Ptes. Jarvis, James, Whitehead, Bell, and Lce.-Corpl. Madden, forwards.

Referee.—Mr. J. Chatt.

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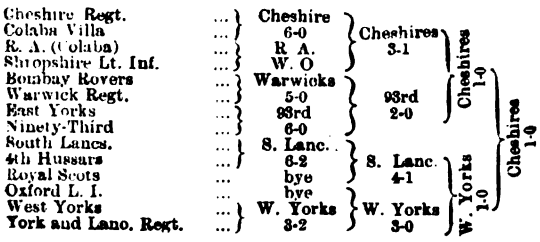
The following is the table of results :—



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THE DELHI DURBAR TOURNAMENT.

The following are the preliminary ties for the Coronation Football Tournament in the Bengal Command, with a few notes of the proceedings to be observed :—

First Round.

(1). XVth Hussars, play 1st Battalion, Rifle Brigade.
(2). R. G. A. Rurki, a bye.
(3). Royal Scots Fusiliers, play S. Lancashire Regiment.
(4). Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, play K. O. S. Borderers.
(5). N. Staffords, play S. Staffords.
(6). Yorkshire Regiment, play Royal Irish Rifles.
(7). Hampshire „ a bye.
(8). Border „ „

Second Round.

(9). Winners of (1), play (2).
(10). „ „ (3), „ Winners of (4).
(11). „ „ (5), „ „ „ (6).
(12). (7) „ (8).

Semi-Finals.

(13). Winners of (9), play Winners of (10).
(14). „ „ (11), „ „ „ (12).

Final.

(15). Winners of (13), play Winners of (14).

The winner only of the Final will play at Delhi.

In the first round the first-named team in each tie will have the choice of ground; in the remaining matches this will be decided by lot. The first and second rounds must be finished before the 20th October, the semi-final by the end of October, and the final by the 10th of November. 35 minutes will be played each way with a 5 minutes' interval. In the case of a draw an extra 10 minutes each way shall be played. If no definite result is arrived at, then the match will be replayed the following day.

We understand that the K. O. S. Borderers have scratched and therefore our first match will be in the second round, against the winners of the Royal Scots Fusiliers *versus* the South Lancashire Regiment.

—o—

RANIKHET.

Sports. —From reports to hand it seems that the 93rd held their own with the other regiments present at the sports held on the Sutherland Recreation Ground on September 10th, 11th and 12th. Private J. Wright won the one mile flat race easily and also took the special prize for being first past the post in the khud race, although we had to give way to the Border Regiment for the team prize. Corpl. McCallum with a first in the Corporal's Race and third in the Hammer, and the Pole jumping also did well.

Football —In a match played on September 2nd between the Standing Camp and the 25th, the Standing Camp won by 3 goals to 1.

SWIMMING NOTES.

The preliminary heats for the "Soldiers' Race," 100 yards, open to all men serving in British Regiments, came off in the Calcutta Swimming Bath on 23rd September. The following were the results :—

		First Heat.	Time.
Private Campbell,	"A" Coy., 2/ A. & S. H.		1 min. 20¼ sec.
„ Ure,	"F" „ „	...	1 „ 27 „
„ Black,	"D" „ „	...	1 „ 30½ „
Gunner Kewon, 53rd R. G. A.		...	—— ——
		Second Heat.	
Private Pollock,	"H" Coy., 2/ A. & S. H.		1 min. 24½ sec.
Drummer Seton,	"G" „ „	...	1 „ 25½ „
Private White,	"A" „ „	...	1 „ 31 „
„ Wright,	"C" „ „	...	—— ——

The final heat was brought off in presence of a large number of spectators at the Autumn Meeting of the Calcutta Swimming Club on 27th September. The "Soldiers' Race" was second on the programme, and Privates Campbell, Pollock, Ure and Seton, all of the 93rd, were the representatives who faced the starter. A splendid race for first place was witnessed between Campbell and Pollock, the difference between the timing of the two being only a quarter of a second. Campbell was first in 1 minute 23¾ seconds, Pollock second in 1 minute 24 seconds, and Ure third. Seton, who was unwell, retired after the second length. The seventh and last event was a water polo tournament, the competing teams being Calcutta Swimming Club *vs.* NINETY-THIRD Highlanders. The military team was distinguished by red caps, while civilians wore black caps. The following were the teams :—

Calcutta Swimming Club—G. H. Harnack, goal; J. Knox and H. M. Sherman, backs; A. R. C. Miller, half-back; G. W. H. Batho, J. F. Seaton and K. M. Kennedy, forwards. NINETY-THIRD Highlanders—Private Campbell, goal; Privates Ure and Kay, backs; Private Wright, half-back; Privates Pollock, Black, and Drummer Seton, forwards. Mr. J. B. Hoare acted as referee.

During the first half of the game play was pretty even. Batho scored a goal for the civilians and a little later the military, who were defending the shallow end goal, equalised through Pollock. At half time each side had a goal to its credit. After the interval the civilians had the best of matters and scored two more goals through Batho, and when play ceased the Calcutta Swimming Club stood victorious by three goals to one.

The band of the NINETY-THIRD was in attendance and played at intervals. The thanks of the Regiment, and especially the swimming members thereof, are due to Mr. W. S. J. Wilson, the Honorary Secretary, and to all the members of the Calcutta Swimming Club for the unfailing courtesy and consideration they have shown to all during the past season.

PORPOISE.

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The History of a Five Minutes and Afterwards.

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Five minutes is not in the calculation of time of any great importance, being at its best but 1/12th of an hour, and at its worst, in a lifetime of three score and ten, merely—well, not in the question at all. Yet notwithstanding its want of importance in the measurement of time, it is a space in which may swim in germ the whole of an individual's future. Five minutes then was all it took to alter the course of Private Mathieson McHinery in his walloping way through life. Before, however, commencing to relate the story, we might as well say at once that it never took place on earth, but is only a tale told by semaphore signals from Mars on the last occasion of a—we don't know what, but imagine he was a goliath of a liar, having the opportunity of communicating with that planet.

This was the semaphored tale.

The street was extremely narrow, and of course extremely dirty. The centre was taken up by car-rails (they have tramcars in Mars), upon which cars never ran unless one had guard mounting "spats" on; and then of course they came to splash one all over with the liquid essence of a hundred years of mud. On either side of the street were side walks, formed, it is supposed, for the purpose of supplying people with a free and handy gymnasia, so continually, to save collision, had one to twist and twine round and about other passengers, that from the contortions one's muscular development was extremely satisfactory. In addition to this and other benefits to be derived from the side walks, one had always the opportunity of having a bath—a mud bath by the way—in the various accommodations placed at convenient distances up and down the street. Even the name of this street had a peculiar attraction. The latter syllable being "tick." (and who has not had "tick"?) While the first has been made famous in that pathetic song in which occurs the line "I had a little dog, its name was——."

Entering from the northern end of the street, away down over the heads of the concourse of passengers, one can see a sign projecting from a two-storied erection, indistinct of course at first, although somehow it seems familiar and interesting and one keeps one's eye upon it until one discovers it is a barrel. No greater effort of mind is required than to add two and two together to understand what is the trade of those behind the walls whence projects this barrel. To most the sight of it calls a sudden liquidation to the mouth, as they imagine what cooling, foaming liquids are supplied within; and in fact if there is no objection we, with he who now enters, will ascend the stairs and share the shade, the beverage, and the calm of a corner table. Ascending the stair, on the left is a baize covered table, where, if you don't mind, we will, sandwiched between our refreshments, have a game of pushing the balls as hard as we can round the baize. Before us at the top of the stair-case is the room where, for all that labour up the stairs, the attraction is. Turning to the left we find the most secluded and most darkened of the tables, from which unnoticed we can view and criticise others.

At the opposite end from where we sit, are three or four (boarders of the house) playing at some game with cards for the "whats" they can get They are not noisy nor boisterous, just jolly, and find great amusement at the unlucky one who loses and stands the needful. In appearance they are somewhat nondescript, and would in a crowd be nowhere noticed as being any different from the remainder. However, by themselves, one would say they are worn and jaded, as if down in their luck; and he with the reddish hair, and wrinkles cornering each eye, will, as the night wears on, come sidling up to our table and commence a yarn stretching from near the time he forsook the "bib" until the present. As he proceeds he produces, in verification of certain statements, a book of certificates and discharges from sailing vessels, steamers, and a discharge from Noah's Ark, wherein he had served as an A. B before the mast. By and bye one offers him a refresher, which, of course, he declines in a shy sort of a way, but nevertheless drinks it when it is brought. Seeing no signs of forthcoming additions to his first "shandy" he embarks on another yarn, and repeats, perhaps in a variation of form, the same relation of his life and doings to the tune of a good drunk at the finish. At this table here in the centre sits one, who from appearances—though distant—seems to have seen other and better days, but now, reduced to the state of a bad liver and the precarious remuneration of a summer Calcutta theatre troupe, he sits chewing the end of bitter reflection. He speaks to no one, nor pays attention to ought but the glass before him and a second-rate long cheroot, the end of which grasped firm between his teeth has become undone. Nearer the door sits a tall broad shouldered man. Evidently a seafaring man from the appearance of his clothes and hands, which, from the continual passing of ropes through them, are horny and chafed, while his face is beaten into a labyrinth of puckers and wrinkles by constant exposure to sun and storm. A smile like the glitter of the inside of a rifle barrel lubricates his features, which broadens and becomes more pronounced the more he drinks, until, at the remembrance of something, the

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frontage of countenance suddenly collapses revealing a double row of molars, very much like an iron railing in want of a touch of tar and a gap filling up here and there. Just opposite where this Son of Neptune sits and makes faces, are a couple, of whom the one in the blue dongaree suit is unknown, but from appearances we should say that he might be a stoker or even a trimmer. The other of course is the Mathieson McHinery or as Mathieson in an aristocratic mood spelt it "Machinery." To hear what the two are saying one would require to play eaves-dropper, as they speak in the whisper used on parade when at attenti n, and one wants to say to his right-hand man "There's a fly on my nose, or a something of insect form in my helmet." However, the whole affair being known to us, there is no necessity for us to do eaves-droppers, so we will right away tell all we know. The drift of the conversation was this Mathieson's stoker or trimmer friend was enticing him to become one of his lot, and join the band of sooty toilers employed in serving nutriment to the stomach of a deep sea steamer. For a long time—well, *nearly* five minutes—McHinery remained staunch to his tactics of staying where he was, but, like an obstinate nail which slackens after a lot of exertion, he gradually, under the influence of a few more glasses, commenced to loosen and become undecided. Slowly but surely he was drawn out of the place where he had made his stand, and set down afresh. Here he was more fit to be managed, and after an enormous amount of persuasion at last consented; *and thus was rounded off the five minutes.*

Afterwards,—as said before, we know all about this affair, so can quite as easily tell of it sitting in our chairs, as though we should rise and follow the twain (Mathieson and his stoker or trimmer friend) as they leave the room. At the foot of the stairs they turn to the left up the street, and having reached the top strike away in a diagonal direction for the river side. That arrived at, the stoker or trimmer hails a liner about thirty yards out from the quay to send something ashore, in which he might come aboard. That something having come—something between a tub and a dinghy, they went aboard, and following the trimmer or stoker, McHinery found himself somewhere in the bowels of the floating mass. The first thing of course to do was to doff the uniform and don that which was handed to him First there were a pair of pantaloons, which would have done for the square sail of the long boat; secondly, a waistcoat was attempted, which was in every way in keeping with the trousers; thirdly, a jacket came forth, and lastly there was Mathieson fixed. The disguise was complete and not even his mother would have distinguished him from a bundle of rags tied up in the centre and ready for deposit at the store. After a time he was shewn his corner for the night, and without relieving himself of any of his garments lay down to sleep. What may have been his dreams there is no saying, but they must have been of a very disturbing nature, judging from the hollow groans emitted, and not of a too refreshing description to judge from how he found himself in the morning. Like the cast off skin of a snake were lying beside him the roomy jacket and vest, while he had wormed his way half through the baggy trousers; he must have passed a night of horror to perform such feats of transformation.

On awakening in the morning he lay a long time listening for the sounds his ears were accustomed to, but none such were forthcoming. In place of these were the stentorian snores of a number of unseen, while in place of the high ceiling of his room was this low roof which he could touch by standing up. "Where am I?" and "How did I come here?" were the questions he asked himself, but, unable to answer, his spirits and heart grew heavy for the want of a proper understanding of his condition. There was a feeling somewhere that he had done wrong, but how he had come to do it, and what it was, were as yet very indistinct ideas, as is usual after being too free with M. L. S. Getting into his two room and kitchen clothes again he lay down and commenced his train of thought all over again, but the repetition brought him no nearer to a solution of his difficulty. In fact so hazy was his mind that he began to think all manner of things, and even went as far as thinking of his bedchum, and what a nice fellow he was, and how that he would be sorry to forego his companionship. Through all the maze of his confusion nothing as yet had occurred pointing to anything approaching desertion, but somehow, following on the recollection that the magazine of his rifle was rusty, it suddenly struck him that he would not be on parade; and then what? Turning a fiery red under the shelter of his two feet four inch jacket collar at the idea of desertion, and of his fellows of the barrack-room thinking any thing cowardly or mean of him, he broke out all over into a cold sweat. From dwelling on what others would think of him, he went on to trying to think of what would be the result to himself personally, and so on until he felt very uncomfortable indeed. Relief came to him, however, in the shape of his friend of the night before with a can of something to put life into him—"liveuer" in fact. After a time under its influence he brightened up a little, and things

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seemed a bit rosier. He even dared to appear on deck, but soon disappeared down again at the sight of a G. M. P. in the distance. All his previous uncomfortableness came back, and until breakfast time he kept to his corner saying little or nothing to anyone. Things became a little livelier, and great was the load taken off his mind, on the news that in an hour or two they would drop down the river, being ready now for the return journey.

The hour or two passed and the deep-sea tramp leaving its moorings commenced its journey. The passage down the river was of the usual description with no other excitement than a narrow escape of running down a native barge. The open sea reached, McHinery began to feel rather uncertain, while a desire for dry land began to arise. Visions too of the past began to occur, and of the sure flooring of his bungalow with its regular lines of bed cots and kit boxes and the daily loaf placed thereon. How light it was there with the numerous doors, and how dark it was now down here, and "Oh! oh! I'm sick."

* * * *

For several days the heavy roll continued, and as long as it continued Mathieson lay as sick as any mortal could be. The roll ceasing, his state improved, and by and bye he ventured on deck to have a view. No sooner was he there, however, than some one from very far down shouted his name, and off he went in search of the place whence came the sound. Reaching the place—the stoke hole—at last, he was set to trimming, and in his weak state found his work almost too much. Pictures of the easy life of the barracks, with nothing more to do than parade, guard, and behave, would frame themselves in the flaming mouths of the roaring furnaces, and all sorts of regrets kept gnawing at the heart of poor McHinery. As the days went past he slowly regained his health and strength, and slowly the pain went out of his blistered hands, for toil he had to, notwithstanding his condition and bodily suffering. He thought as each blister burst of how his blistered heels had had attention in the Tochi, and how much more trying was his daily task now than the worst day in that campaign. After all he thought "Rather would I answer the Post than answer for this affair at the breakfast table." Day in day out the same old routine, and more distasteful did he come to think his work, and more hateful the narrow confines of the steamer.

From their starting point they had been seven or eight days out, and were in hopes of making a certain point by sundown of the ninth, which meant a very successful passage. Their hopes, however, were blasted, for about noon on the ninth day there arose one of those hurricanes peculiar to seas near and around India, which, striking the steamer, buffeted it so much that they for a time lay at its mercy. Wave after wave swept over them, finding their way to the stoke-hole and putting out the fires. In one of the furious bursts of water the only remaining fire was washed out, and round and round like a toy the vessel was tossed. Oil and waste were poured into the furnaces and lighted, but in the confusion one or two preventives were omitted, which caused one of the cans to catch fire, and thence the fire spread to the stoke-hole deck, and in the flame occasioned one or two men were caught. One managed to fight his way clear, the other, whom we have seen before, seemingly muddled by the fumes, would have lain down where he was, had not Mathieson, forgetting his own weak condition, rushed in and attempted to drag him forth. The task was too much and falling over the body of the half rescued stoker or trimmer he fell into the midst of the burning mass. It is not told if an attempt was made to rescue McHinery, but at any rate the day following the storm there were two burials at sea, and the body of Mathieson the deserter was one of those committed to the deep, to answer at some future time the sound of a greater Reveille than he had ever heard in his life.

There is no knowledge of how Mathieson McHinery died, nor any further trace of him in his regiment than a court of inquiry over his absence, and the remark against his name—"deserted." Nor is there knowledge of him in that rose covered cottage facing the sound between the Greater and Smaller Cumbrae, on the Firth of Clyde. The secret of his demise is kept in the coral caves of some far different shore, and sit as the widowed mother will by the sands of Cockle Bay the waves cannot tell her.

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Captain Gwyn's advice to men who wanted to marry.

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There was a tramp and jingle of armed heels along the passage, followed by a knock at the door and the troop-sergeant-major entered and saluted.

"What is it, Sergeant Crupper?"

"Beg pardon, Captain Gwyn, but there are five men of the troop who want to speak to you."

"What do they want?" asked the Captain.

"Well, if you please, sir," said the sergeant, a little nervously; "if you please, sir, they want to get married."

"Five men want to get married!" said Gwyn, jumping up. "Five men in my troop want to get married! Let me at them! But no, I'll be calm. Bring them in, Sergeant Crupper, one at a time."

"Now my good man," said Gwyn as a smart young private stepped into the room, and stood blushing and as timid as a girl, "You want to get married—eh?"

"Yes, sir," replied the young soldier, looking horribly ashamed of the fact.

"He's a very steady soldier, isn't he, Sergeant Crupper?"

"Yes, sir."

"Doesn't get into any scrapes?"

"No, sir."

"Doesn't drink?"

"Hasn't been 'up' since he 'listed, sir."

"Now," said Gwyn, "in consideration of your past good conduct"—the man looked pleased and hopeful—"and out of regard for your future welfare,"—the man looked still more pleased and hopeful—"I distinctly refuse to allow you to ruin yourself. No, sir, you are too promising for me to permit anything of the sort. Go away,—that will do."

"Please, sir," said the man, "the young woman ——"

"I don't care about the young woman, sir, any more than the young woman would care about you six months after you had married her."

"But, please, sir——"

"Right-about face!" said the sergeant; and away went number one. Number two entered.

"So you want to get married, too, do you?"

"Yes, if you please, sir," said the man.

"Have you quite made up your mind on the subject?"

"Yes, sir," replied the man, gathering confidence. "Quite, sir."

"This is a very bad case, I'm afraid, sergeant!" said Gwyn, shaking his head. "My good man, when did it come on?"

"What, sir!" asked the man in astonishment.

"Why, the fit, the disease, the insanity, the wish to get married, whatever you like to call it!"

The man had no answer, so he smiled a sad and twisted smile on his officer.

"You're quite decided to do it, if you get leave?"

"Yes, sir, quite"

"Here, Wilson," said Gwyn to his servant, "get me a coil of rope"

A coil of rope was brought.

"Now, my good man," said Gwyn, slowly and impressively, "allow me to present you with this coil of rope, and if you feel you cannot conquer this weakness, attach one end of it to a beam or a branch, or anything convenient; at the other end make a loop, into which insert your head, and then allow yourself to hang pendant until the disease is cured. But let the place be a secluded spot, where you will be safe from interruption. If you think you'll want any assistance in the operation, I shall order the next man for fatigue duty to afford you all in his power. There, that will do!"

"Right-about face!" said Sergeant Crupper, and number two marched off sheepishly, holding the coil of rope, with a half amused, half angry expression on his face.

The third candidate for matrimony now made his appearance.

"Now, what do you want?"

"Leave to get married, sir, please."

"Do you think yourself a fit subject for matrimony?"

"Yes, sir."

"Ah, I must just ask you a few questions first, with a view of ascertaining that for myself. How do you prefer your dinner—hot, as you get it now, or cold, or, perhaps none at all?"

"Hot, sir, of course."

"Supposing you were married now, would you be very much pleased and gratified at seeing that your wife preferred the society of almost any man to yours? Wouldn't you like, now, for instance, to see her flirting very much—carrying on, you know, as you'd call it?"

"No, sir, of course not," said the trooper, instinctively clenching his fists, as if mentally remarking that he'd very much like to see the chap as 'ud try it on!"

"Hum! I've only one more question to ask you. Which are you—an angel or only an ordinary mortal?"

The young trooper hesitated.

"Come, come, sir, no prevarication. Which are you—an angel, or ordinary mortal?"

"Well, an or'nary mortal, I suppose, sir," replied the man, reluctantly, and conscious that he was damaging his case very much by the admission.

"I thought so. Then what the d—— do you mean, sir, by coming here with your cock-and-

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bull story about being a fit subject for matrimony, and got the cool assurance to tell me that you'd like to have your dinner hot, and to keep your wife to yourself, and that you are not an angel? Get away, sir, and don't let me have any more of this nonsense. Now, Sergeant Crupper, let's have in number four."

Number four, a man with a sulky air and a bad stamp of countenance, made his appearance.

"You wish to get married?"

"Yes, sir."

"I think, Sergeant Crupper, that this is an incorrigibly bad character—in fact, the worst we've got in the troop."

"Can't hardly do anything with him, sir. Here's his defaulter's sheet."

"Hum! Now, my man," said Gwyn, scanning the paper before him, "I see you've been tried by court-martial seven times; you've been flogged for disgraceful conduct; you've been in prison half your service; you've been constantly up for insubordination and insolence to your superiors, and for fighting and quarreling with your comrades; you've been tried for desertion and marked with the letter D; in fact, you've committed nearly every crime a soldier can commit, and nearly every form of punishment has been inflicted upon you! but I'm happy to say it's now in my power to award you—— Here, Wilson, get me the black smoking cap you'll find hanging up near my bed.

The cap was brought, and Gwyn put it on with due solemnity, and then continued:—

"As I said, it is now in my power to award you a punishment worse than you've ever received from any court-matrial—a punishment to which floggings and your imprisonments and your markings with the letter D will be mere child's play—a punishment which will be almost commensurate with your crimes! Yes, sir; YOU SHALL GET MARRIED! And see, Sergeant Crupper, that it's done as soon as possible!"

"Yes, sir; right-about face!"

"The hardened blackguard!" said Gwyn, taking off the black cap. "He richly deserves it. Confound it! those infernal women are turning everything topsy-turvy in my troop. There seems to be a regular epidemic running through it. I'll soon put a stop to it, though! Bring in number five, Sergeant Crupper."

The sergeant looked into the passage, and called number five, but number five had fled wildly long ago, and was now confiding in very forcible language to a comrade, that he'd sooner face ten thousand jilted maidens than the "cap'n" in his present mood.

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Letter to the Editor.

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2ND BATTALION, KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES,
Somaliland Field Force, *vid* Aden,
9th September 1902.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Many thanks for the two bound volumes of the *Thin Red Line* and for your letter. I shall be very glad indeed to contribute items of news or intelligence to the regimental paper whenever possible. This, however, I shall probably be seldom able to do, as we are often for months together out of the reach of H. M.'s Mails. Since writing last my address has again been changed. Head-quarters and half the battalion were ordered from B C. A. to Somaliland at 18 hours' notice. No transport from Durban could be procured in time, so we proceeded to Aden in the German East African liner *Kurfürst* (the Germans have, I'm sorry to say, by far the finest steamers running on this coast now), and there transhipped to the R. I. M. S. *Mayo* which brought us on to Berbera at the end of August.

This is the regiment's second and my third trip to Somaliland, so we begin to know the country. The protectorate is much disturbed just now by the rebellious Mullah Muhammed-bin Abdullah, who has not yet been brought to book by General Swayne. We start almost at once to join the Field Force at the far front, and hope to contribute in no small way to the Mullah's ultimate defeat and capture.

The Battalion, since I first joined it, has been much changed. We were then (1899) 1,000 strong, and under the War Office. Now the Foreign Office keeps us up to a strength of 600 only. We enlist no men but *Yaos* who are the pick of Central Africans, and a fine fighting race. A large number are now comparatively old soldiers, who have seen service with us in B. C. A., the Gambia, and Ashanti. They give very little trouble, and are very smart on parade, make very good shots, and are quite amenable to discipline. In this country the great difficulty is water, but we can move the men on less that a gallon a man per diem, ½ lb. rice, and meat whenever available.

The officers do not, as a rule, get much in the way of leave which, however, does not matter so long as the climate is a fairly healthy one like this. After being for the best part of a year in Ashanti I took a small party of the men home to see the King, and was subsequently lucky in being allowed to stay there for the six months' leave I secured in South Africa. I hope to be able to tell of our doings here at a later date.

With every good wish for the old corps,
Believe me, yours truly,
J. JOHNSTON STEWART, *Captain.*

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Football.

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OFFICERS *versus* SERGEANTS.

An important event took place on the 26th September in the form of a football struggle between the Officers and Sergeants. The battle took place on the regimental ground on the *maidan* and commenced about 5 P.M. Our special reporter, who, by the way, was so interested in the match that he forgot to write a report, says that "play" commenced punctually. There is doubtless some hidden meaning in the word, which our funny man wishes to emphasise, but if he thinks that it was all play and no work, he is mistaken, the writer as a participant in the struggle can assure him that such was not the case. It was grim, hard work as he can vouch for, having shed enough sweat to drown himself in, had occasion required the sacrifice of a valuable life; but to proceed. The battle, as already stated, was commenced. The referee blew a whistle, and both teams at once found themselves engaged in deadly combat. *En passant* I should like to record my opinion that military football is not the up-to-date strategical or tactical exercise it ought to be. As for strategy, it is not employed at all, both teams making their way to a previously selected battle-ground as if no enemy were known to be within a thousand miles of the spot. This is certainly not as it should be. From a tactical point of view much can yet be done to make the football team a more effective fighting force. The man in the street and other kindred spirits will no doubt be horrified to learn that in spite of the lessons of the late war a British Military Football Team still persists in refusing to take cover. No attempt at concealment of the forces at disposal is made by the Captains of teams, which makes scouting unnecessary, and thus tends to throw the teams back on the old shoulder to shoulder, close fighting formation. Reconnoissance and patrols are indeed discouraged, and the referee, viewing such advanced ideas with extreme displeasure, usually orders a temporary retirement of the team to which the offender belongs. It is called "offside" in football language I believe, and the regulations regarding it are strictly enforced. Besides being an obsolete method of warfare it is very unpopular with the players themselves, especially if they are caught at it. All this is surely deplorable and ought to call for searching enquiry and reform if it is properly brought to the notice of the responsible authorities. Another point that is not in accordance with the spirit of the times is the vast amount of authority vested in the man called the referee, who can make it very unpleasant indeed for anyone transgressing the *fixed* rules of the game. Why should the rules of the game be fixed? This is indeed detrimental to the power of initiative, the high water mark by which soldiers are judged nowadays. But I have forgotten all about the football match, in fact it would scarcely be seemly to talk about it as the Editorial Department was out in full force. Suffice to say that there was a football match played, and the officers beat the Sergeants by three goals to one. An honour's list is appended:—

SPECIAL MENTION

Officers.—*Goal*, Pte. McAulay; *Backs*, Fenzi, Douglas; *Half Backs*, James, Gillan, Cheape; *Forwards*, Waters, Cudlip, Herbert, Symes, Maclean.

Sergeants.—*Goal*, Tyndall; *Backs*, Gibb, Norrie; *Half Backs*, Lockie, McLuckie, Brash; *Forwards*, Matthew, McDonald, Ogg, Cockburn, Alder.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the parrot only says what it hears, some interesting information as to what the troops think, may be gathered from it.]

WHAT he wid maintain all noise near his post.

That if ye wid gie me my charpoy I'll fin' my bungalow mysel'.

That in Sialkot you get issued out with tomatoes when the water is damp.

That he wis gaun tae lock his bayonet, close his keys and pit his belt in his pooch.

That they were a' tae parade in the morning in dreel order, shirt sleeves and khaki jackets.

That it's hard tae change a rupee if ye hae na got yin tae your name.

That the weather is getting a' richt again and free hurles tae Alipore are decreasing.

That Hogan's Tonic is on the wane and Wullie's on the rise.

That it can go its dodger in the morning again and thinks anither pun' blister would dae nae hairm.

That it would like tae ken if Dhobie's itch, like beauty, is only skin deep?

That we are becoming South Africanised and ca' the maidan the bloomin' veldt.

Than Tolly's Donga wadna' be as euphoniumised as Tolly's Nullah.

That it extends a herty welcome tae its kopje-houpin cusins frae Ranikhet and Jalapahar.

Pretty Polly, pretty pet,
Just come back frae Ranikhet.
Pretty Polly, how did ma
Let ye doon frae Jalapahar.

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Temperance Notes.

—o—

R. A. T. A.

The usual Monthly Meeting took place on the 8th September. There was only one item of any importance, and that was the presentation of the "Association Medal" to Lce.-Corpl. McMahon. The Secretary presented the medal, and congratulated Lce.-Corpl. McMahon on having the honour to be the one chosen by this branch to receive the distinction.

I am glad to report our funds are in a healthy condition, and steadily increasing.

The Ranikhet Detachment have been doing very well during their stay on the hills. They sent down a roll of 39 members, which speaks very well for the Detachment, and for the branch officers, who must have worked hard to obtain that result. We gladly welcome this addition to our numbers, and hope soon to have them with us in Calcutta, and that in spite of all temptation, they will remain true to their pledge, and not touch or have anything to do with intoxicating drink which "biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder."

The Regiment will soon be off to the manœuvres and Delhi Durbar, so let me urge all our members to stick to their pledges, and when their throats get dry and dusty, after a hard day's work, don't fly to the canteen to wash it, some clean water or a bottle of soda will be just as effectual. It will be cheaper, heads will be clearer, and there will be no need to start afresh at the bottom of the list for a place in the honour's list.

The quarterly distribution of honours will take place during October, when I hope to be able to give the *Thin Red Line* a longer report.

D. G. NEWELL, Corpl.,
Branch Secretary.

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INDEPENDENT ORDER OF RECHABITES.

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"Excelsior Tent," No. 190.

The "Tent" has been going along very satisfactorily since the last report to the *Thin Red Line*, as we have added four more members to our ranks, and expect to add two more by the end of the month. I am sorry to have to report two violations, also the loss of three good Brothers from our "Tent" on their return to Civil Life, *viz.*, Coleman and McCreadie, who have all taken their Clearance Cards. We wish them good luck and prosperity wherever they may go. We also lose some more good workers who are T. X. later on in the season. They will be a great loss to us, but a considerable gain to the "Tent," of which they become members. We will have to put our shoulders to the wheel to fill up these gaps in our ranks, but now that the drafts are coming from the hills, we expect to find a field of labour amongst them. Some good work in the hills has been done by them in the temperance line and especially at Ranikhet. I am pleased to say our meetings are well attended now, and greater interest is being taken in carrying out our Programmes. We still meet in the Theatre every Thursday at 6 P.M. Any one wishing to join this Society can learn all particulars from the "Tent" Secretary, or any of the "Tent" Officers at any time.

Son of Rechab.

Ninety-third Calendar for November 1902.

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1	S.	Mutiny Campaign. No. 3 Company defeated small force of enemy at Kudjwa near Fatehpur, 1857; 3 killed; 1 Officer and 15 men wounded. Sialkote for Jhansi, 1866.
2	S.	Reached Cawnpore, 1857; 2 Companies under Lieut.-Col. Ewart attacked fortified village of Banterah, 10 miles from Lucknow; 2 Companies under Lieut.-Col. Adrian Hope captured gun at Bannee, 1 man killed, 3 wounded.
3	M.	Embarked in detachments, Cork for West Indies, 1823. Left Sialkote to join Sir Neville Chamberlain's force for Eusafzai Campaign, 1863: strength, 22 Officers, 30 Sergeants, 25 Corporals, 20 Drummers, 497 Privates.
4	Tu.	Embarked Cork for West Indies, 1823. Chaubattia for Bareilly, 1898.
5	W.	Ranikhet to Barellly. Hill Manœuvres *en route*, 1900.
6	Th.	Embarked Cork for West Indies, 1823. Arrived Toronto from Montreal, 1838.
7	F.	
8	S.	Embarked Cork for West Indies, 1823; Tochi Campaign; break up of third Khaza Column at Inzar Kach, 1897. Arrived Bareilly from Chaubattia, 1898. Right Wing arrived Bareilly from Hill Manœuvres, 1900
9	S.	Sir Colin Campbell assumed command of force at Cawnpore for advance upon Lucknow, 1857. Attack on Fort Mittowlee, Oudh, 1858. Left Wing and Head-quarters arrived Bareilly from Hill Manœuvres, 1900.
10	M.	Strength reduced to 45 Officers, 57 Sergeants, 24 Drummers, 48 Corporals, 6 Pipers and 952 Privates, 1856. Capture of Fort Mittowlee, 1858. Dagshai for Umballa, 1893.
11	Tu.	Force for relief of Lucknow reviewed at Cawnpore by Sir Colin Campbell, 1857; 93rd, 53rd, and 4th Punjab Infantry brigaded together under Brig.-Genl. Adrian Hope, 93rd.
12	W.	
13	Th.	Windsor for Portsmouth *en route* for Glasgow, 1882.
14	F.	Terrific gale at Balaklava, huts unroofed and every tent in camp levelled, 1854. Advance from Cawnpore for relief of Lucknow commenced, 1857. Pindi for Peshawar, 1861.
15	S.	Arrived Umballa from Dagshai, 1893.
16	S.	Secundrabagh and Shah Nujeef stormed by 93rd, 1857; 2 Officers and 24 men killed. 7 Officers and 61 men wounded. Arrived Glasgow from Windsor, 1862.
17	M.	Communication with Residency, Lucknow, opened, 1857. Arrived Boya from Sherannî, 1897. Funeral of H. G. Duke of Wellington, detachment of 93rd in attendance, 1852.
18	Tu.	Evacuation of Lucknow commenced, 1857.
19	W.	
20	Th.	
21	F.	Re-armed with Lee-Enfield Rifle, 1900. "G" Company team fire for and win Army Inter-Company Volley Match, 1900.
22	S.	Evacuation of Lucknow successfully accomplished, 1857.
23	S.	
24	M.	2nd Battalion, 93rd, Disbanded Sunderland, 1815; 30 Sergeants, 23 Corporals, 11 Drummers and 303 men to 1st Battalion.
25	Tu.	
26	W.	

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27 Th.
28 F. Sir Colin Campbell's force from Lucknow after forced march reinforced General Wyndham at Cawnpore, 1857.
29 S. Bridge of boats over Ganges at Cawnpore saved and secured by Sir Colin Campbell's force, 1857. Column under Major J. H. Campbell left Boya for Maizar, 1897.
30 S. St. Andrew's Day. Breech-loading Sniders, Pattern III, issued, 1870.

—:o:—

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5694, Private J. Blake, "D" Company, dated 1st September 1902; No. 5394, Private J. Ross, "D" Company, dated 1st September 1902; No. 7624, Private W. Perrie, "C" Company, dated 2nd September 1902; No. 6302, Private J. Sutherland, "H" Company, dated 30th September 1902.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 3d. per diem:—

"B" Company.

No. 3749, Private A. Hollands.

At 2d. per diem:—

"E" Company.

No. 5811, Private M. McGinley.

"G" Company.

No. 5855, Pte. W. Brodie. | No. 5852, Pte. G. Sewell.

At 1d. per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 7038, Pte. J. McLachlan. | No. 7670, Pte. J. Brown.

"B" Company.

No. 7677, Pte. D. Reid. | No. 7617, Pte. M. Christie.

"D" Company.

No. 7465, Pte. J. Potter. | No. 8059, Pte. W. Maclay.

"E" Company.

No. 6397, Private J. Wright.

"G" Company.

No. 4403, Private R. Frew.

"H" Company.

No. 6302, Private J. Sutherland.

CERTIFICATES.

2nd Class Certificates of Education, dated Ranikhet, 4th September 1902:—

No. 6486,	Private	F. Noble,	"A" Company.
„ 7465,	„	J. Gardner,	"D" „
„ 7013,	„	J. C. Griffiths,	"D" „
„ 7021,	„	J. Wardrope,	"D" „
„ 6930,	„	R. Paterson,	"F" „
„ 7117,	„	C. Mulholland,	"C" „

3rd Class Certificates of Education, dated Fort William, 27th September 1902:—

No. 7797,	Private	J. Morrison,	"A" Company.
„ 7340,	„	W. Law,	"B" „
„ 7760,	„	C. McKim,	"C" „
„ 5117,	„	S. McVea,	„ „
„ 7624,	Lce.-Cpl.	J. Perrie,	„ „
„ 5394,	„	J. Ross,	"D" „
„ 7856,	„	G. Smith,	„ „
„ 7459,	„	G. McNair,	"E" „
„ 6444,	Private	J. Young,	„ „
„ 6440,	Lce.-Cpl.	E. McElroy,	„ „
„ 5960,	„	D. Dinwoodie,	"F" „
„ 4530,	„	D. McDonald,	"G" „
„ 6238,	„	J. Smith,	„ „
„ 6247,	„	J. Stewart,	„ „

3rd Class Certificates of Education, dated Ranikhet, 4th September 1902:—

No. 6884, Private P. Thomson, "F" Company.

Signalling Prizes.

				Rs.	A.	P.
No. 3394,	Sergeant	J. Durnan,	"F" Coy. ...	10	0	0
„ 5256,	„	T. Atkinson,	"H" „ ...	10	0	0
„ 5645,	Corpl.	H. Bracken, late	"G" „ ...	10	0	0
„ 4571,	Lce.-Corpl.	J. Hiddles,	"D" „ ...	10	0	0
„ 3851,	Private	R. Smith,	"A" „ ...	10	0	0
„ 3469,	„	A. Hamilton,	"G" „ ...	10	0	0

EXTENSION OF SERVICE.

To complete 21 years' with the Colours.—No. 3548, Corporal Charles Edward Greenland, "E" Company.

—:o:—

Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

BIRTHS.

BURNARD.—At Calcutta, on the 21st July 1902, the wife of school-master R. H. Burnard, of a daughter—Alice Margaret.

WOOD.—At Fort William, Calcutta, on the 28th July 1902, the wife of Armourer-Sergeant W. H. Wood, of a son—Evelyn William Henry.

SWAN.—At Ranikhet, on the 8th August 1902, the wife of Colour-Sergeant T. A. Swan, of a son—Hugh.

DEATH.

MCKERROW.—At Fort William, Calcutta, on the 7th September 1902, No. 7165, Private S. McKerrow, "B" Company.

—:o:—

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.
Major S. Paterson	3	0
Captain A. Sutherland	15	0
Lieut. S. Langton	3	0
2nd Lieut. R. R. Forbes	3	0
„ „ A. E. Kennedy	3	0
„ „ C. P. James	3	0
Sergeant W. Scott	10	0
Private H. Williams, "B" Company ...	2	0

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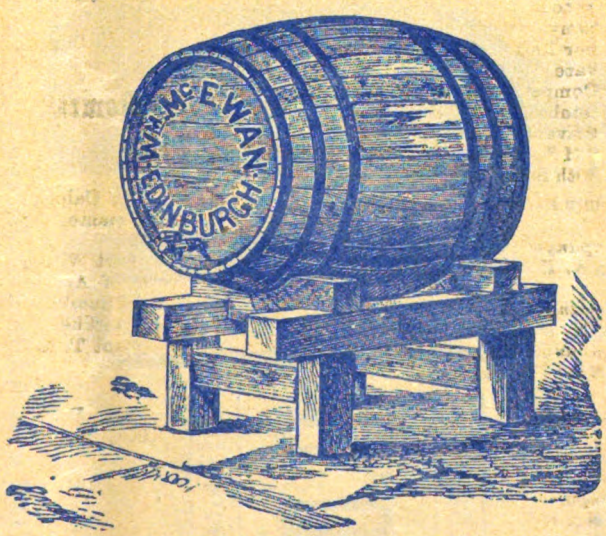

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The Thin Red Line.

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Vol. VII,

THIN RED LINE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 7—Vol. VIII.] CALCUTTA—NOVEMBER 1902. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

We have this month to chronicle several losses to the regiment from various causes. Captain C. W. H. Bell has retired after completing his tour of duty at the Depôt. Private J. Scott, to the universal regret of the regiment, died in the Station Hospital on Tuesday the 6th October. During the month we have lost nine men gone home time-expired, and nine who were invalided. Private Williams was given a passage direct from Calcutta and embarked on the *Goorkha* on the 8th, the remainder of the time-expired and the invalids left for Deolali on the 18th, and are due to embark at Bombay on the *Syria* on the 5th November.

* * * *

The time for our departure to Umballa is drawing nearer, and all arrangements are completed. The 14th November will see us out of Calcutta, and the 19th into Umballa. Daily field days for about ten days should get us into training for the big war, which is to be declared about the 29th. The retiring Commander-in-Chief will hold a farewell review of the troops composing the northern army during these ten days. The manœuvres will probably be divided into two parts, the first ten or eleven days being divided from the second by a truce of a day or two. The survivors of the war should be in the Durbar Camp by the 21st December.

* * * *

The Snipe shooting round Calcutta has been very fair throughout the month, but owing to the tremendous outlay and arrangements which have to be made, it is not easy to get out often. The bag for the month, taken from the Officers' Game Book, shows a total of 406 Snipe. An average day costing from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 per head, combined with the trouble with coolies, etc, make the sport too prohibitive to be often indulged in. The cooly wage customary round Calcutta is from 8 to 12 annas, which compares very unfavourably with our up-country experiences, where a cooly was delighted with 3 annas a day. At first the jheels were in some places too wet, there being a foot or two of water over the paddy, but later in the month they went to the other extreme.

* * * *

A very unpleasant form of skin disease is rife in the Fort at present, generally known as Dhobi's Itch. It is probably rightly so called, as the dhobi is the person who has more to do with one's clothes than any one else. Dirty water is not directly the cause of it. The water being laid on in the Fort there is less fear of contamination, but the dirty habits of the dhobi are sufficient to carry infection. For example, after washing the clothes of one person suffering from the complaint, it is unlikely that he changes the water before washing the next lot, and the germ or seed would be conveyed to

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a square for the purpose of hearing it, on the conclusion of the parade.

* * * *

The inspection itself was extended over some days and included the witnessing of the different courses which we go through, each being performed by a separate company. The inspection of books took place on the last day, the 10th March.

* * * *

Dalhousie Barrack has at last been declared disinfected after the cholera outbreak and the camps were broken up on the 11th March, when the companies returned to barracks. Owing to the strength of the battalion some 150 men had to remain for a short time under canvas, but as drafts began to leave for the hills their places were absorbed, and a few spare corners in other barracks having been discovered, the whole battalion is once more under a proper roof.

* * * *

During the month some 140 men proceeded to the hill depôt at Jalapahar, Darjeeling. These were mainly selected by the medical officer, or from the latest joined drafts. Captain Hyslop went in charge of them and 2nd Lieuts. Hon. R. Bruce, Lord George Dundas, and of attached officers 2nd Lieuts. Pulford, Macdonald and Dudley accompanied him. Major Marshall of the West Riding Regiment is in command of the hill depôt, and from all we hear it seems that he is giving them every opportunity of learning how to climb khuds.

* * * *

Early in the month the battalion took part in some night operations, the scene of which was laid in our familiar haunts on the banks of "Tolly's Nullah." The general idea which was communicated to us was that "a Division is pursuing a similar force of an enemy who is retiring from Calcutta to Diamond Harbour. Two battalions of Infantry are ordered to furnish the outposts for the night. The main body of the Division is camping on the maidan. Lieut.-Col. J. H. Campbell will command the outposts and issue the necessary orders." The result of which was that shortly before 5 P.M., the battalion moved out in battle array by independent companies. Four companies proceeded direct to various selected points, there to find a picquet and sentries and patrols each. The other four companies marched two and two to act as supports within a reasonable distance. By 5-30 everything was in readiness, and it was ascertained that the 8th Rajputs were in connection and continuation of the line on our right. The enemy, we believe, were the 16th Rajputs, but as they did not attack that part of the line which we were holding, we did not see much of them. Shots were occasionally heard, but we never became involved in any general action, and were not sorry when the "cease fire" and "retire" struck on our listening ears. We marched in to the Fort soon after 8 P.M.

* * * *

In presenting the Queen's South Africa Medals to those men of the battalion who fought in the NINETY-FIRST, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India made the following remarks:—

"Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, it is a great pleasure to me to present those men who distinguished themselves in your 1st Battalion with their medals for the South African War. That Battalion of your Regiment served throughout the War from start to finish, and on occasions fully maintained the high reputation of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. In the early phases of the War they formed part of the Highland Brigade, which had so much hard fighting on the Modder River, and later took part in the advance on Bloemfontein and Pretoria, and in all the fighting we then had. In the later phases of the campaign the Battalion did excellent service on the blockhouse lines and as part of the móbile columns that had so much hard and continuous trekking as well as fighting to do. I know how well you men deserve the medals I have had the pleasure of handing you. I am sure you will highly prize them as memorials of the South African War, and I am confident that should occasion arise I can count fully on the devotion to King and country that has ever so greatly distinguished the old NINETY-THIRD."

* * * *

We note with pleasure the following, taken from the despatches in the "Times":—"Lieut. Sandeman, of the 2nd King's African Rifles, while bringing a convoy here (Galadi) from Dudule, left the track about a mile and discovered three wells with ample water."

* * * *

We take the following from a contemporary:—One of the best known men in commercial and financial circles in Calcutta is Finlayson of the Presidency Bank. His special recreation consists in showing a kind hospitality to British Soldiers in Calcutta. He keeps an open house for them every evening of the week, where they can enjoy a crack, sing a song, play at games and partake of light refreshments until their hour for returning to the Fort. The men of the old NINETY-THIRD have presented him with a beautiful timepiece in appreciation of his kindness.

* * * *

On the 20th of March the Battalion took part in a scheme to man the Fort, as it would be done in case of attack (presumably by a Brigade of Babus). As a knowledge of the dispositions is to be treated confidentially, on obvious grounds, we regret we must refrain from de-

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scribing them in detail, but suffice it to say that from the excitement it aroused and the undue (from the temperature) alacrity it called forth, we imagine that it was most realistic. We hear that one Company of Highlanders is still looking for its place on the ramparts. The cavalry (one troop) redoubled our confidence by taking up a commanding position where they had a clear run of nearly fifty yards in every direction before meeting the nearest houses, but as they were mainly for orderly purposes this is superfluous. Signalling communication was kept up from the prominent features of the ramparts. The troops were kept under arms for about an hour.

* * * *

The Annual Report of the Army Rifle Association. just to hand, has some information with regard to amendments to the old programme. The additions include *The Prince of Wales' Cup* and *The Officers' Cup*. The former has been presented by H. R. H. The Prince of Wales for competition between Regimental Depôts, on the lines of the Queen Victoria's Cup, and will be held for the year by the winning Regimental Depôt. The team is to consist of six of any rank including the permanent staff of Militia Battalions on the strength of the Depôt. In every other respect it is the same as for the Queen Victoria's Cup. We hope to hear that our Depôt will not be behind hand in the match.

* * * *

The Officers' Cup has been presented for Inter-Regimental Team Competition. Teams will be composed of four officers. It seems a pity however that the match may only be shot at Bisley, which of course debars most Regiments abroad from competing.

* * * *

An important change has been made with regard to the Queen Victoria's Cup. It is now to be fired for by (a) Cavalry, R. E., etc., and Infantry *at Home;* (b) Cavalry, R. E., etc., and Infantry *abroad* instead of (a) Cavalry, (b) R. E., etc., and Infantry. This change has been introduced because owing to weather conditions in India and the colonies being so much more favourable to shooting than in England, units at home, in competition with those abroad, were felt to be at a serious disadvantage. Moreover, the general average of age and experience of Soldiers abroad is considerably higher than at home. Also, the Cavalry, who are now using the rifle in these competitions, have an opportunity of showing that, given the same weapon, they are in no way inferior in shooting to their comrades in the Infantry.

—:o:—

Home and Depot Notes.

—o—

Notice has been received from the War Office that the NINETY-FIRST are under orders to leave South Africa for Longmoor, Aldershot, and that the Battalion will arrive there sometime in May. The Battalion has been in South Africa for about two and a half years.

* * * *

2nd Lieutenant Robert Ormelie Fraser Hannay, of the NINETY-FIRST, only son of the late Colonel Hannay, has, we regret to hear, died at Pretoria Hospital of Enteric Fever at the early age of nineteen. Much sympathy will be felt by all ranks of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders for Mrs. Hannay.

* * * *

Captain M'Rae, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who has been gazetted to the rank of Major, is the popular Recruiting Staff Officer at Glasgow. He served in South Africa with the 4th Battalion as Quarter-Master, and returned to Scotland to take up the post of Recruiting Officer in St. Mungo, where his assiduity in securing recruits was instrumental in creating a record for the city in the number of men enlisted in one year.

* * * *

Lieut. J. A. Campbell, of the NINETY-FIRST, has been selected for special service with the West African Frontier Force.

* * * *

A battery of seven breech-loading guns, for the firing of royal-salutes, is soon to be provided at Stirling Castle in place of the muzzle-loaders.

* * * *

Maj. and Hon. Lieut.-Col. the Hon. T. H. A. E. Cochrane, 4th Battalion, is seconded for service under the Home Office.

* * * *

Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel J. K. Stewart, V.D., has resigned his commission as Major and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of the 1st (Renfrewshire) Volunteer Battalion. He joined the volunteers as a private 37 years ago, and was appointed ensign in 1873, and afterwards passed through the grades of Lieutenant and Captain, and received his commission as Major in 1893. He has been a most efficient staff officer, and was highly respected by his brother officers and the members of the Battalion.

* * * *

Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, has given £500 towards the Queen Victoria School for the sons of Scottish Sailors and Soldiers. Her Royal Highness has set an excellent example, which will ensure many subscriptions.

* * * *

Sword presented to Lieutenant Neilson.—

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There was a large and influential gathering in the Masonic Hall on Tuesday night to do honour to Lieutenant Gordon Neilson, D.S.O., son of Colonel Neilson, Mossend and Orbiston, on the occasion of his return after distinguished service in South Africa. County Councillor Neilson, J.P., presided, and, in name of the residents of Bellhill, Mossend, Clydesdale, and Holytown, presented the guest of the evening with a magnificent claymore, the design of which is entirely Celtic in character. Etched on the blade is the following inscription:—"Presented to Lieutenant Walter Gordon Neilson, D.S.O., by numerous friends in Bellhill, Mossend, Clydesdale, and Holytown on the occasion of his return from South African War, February, 1903." The hilt and scabbard are of solid silver, richly gilt, and the whole is contained in an oak case decorated with Celtic carving.

* * * *

The following is the List of Battle Honours which may be borne on colours for the South African War:—

Belmont, Modder River, Paardeberg, Dreifontein, Wepener, Johannesburg, Diamond Hill, Belfast, Wittebergen, Defence of Kimberley, Defence of Mafeking, Relief of Mafeking, Rhodesia, Talana, Elandslaagte, Defence of Ladysmith, Tugela Heights, Relief of Ladysmith, and Laing's Nek.

—:o:—

"A Scot Abroad."

—o—

My thoughts now travel o'er the deep,
Back to my native land,
And o'er my home-sick senses creep
Thoughts of that cherished strand.

I see my Highland home once more,
Nothing seems to be removed,
The same green fields, as in days of yore,
And the heather hills I loved.

Ah, Scotia, thou wert dear to me,
When I was but a boy,
And now, I must cherish thee,
The fount of all my joy.

Your sons are scattered in every clime,
And though they number few,
When danger threatens, at any time,
They'll fight, they'll die, for you.

At the call "to arms," we found them brave,
They proved aye staunch and true,
And fought, and filled a hero's grave,
For the Red, the White, and Blue.

ROBERT BURNS,

Notes on Water.

—o—

By Captain Hodgson, R. A. M. C.

A regimental paper written as a chronicle of daily happenings and events of purely regimental interest does not seem quite the place for a contribution on water. But if you will only realise the fact, water is very much a universal interest. It is of the greatest importance to every member of a community. The following notes are written with a view to helping you to profit in some slight degree from past experience and avoid risks in the future. I hope that they will be useful. It must be admitted that water as a topic has not the same power of exciting interest as other well-known fluids of less placid properties. Like all other of Nature's free gifts it is little appreciated until it is removed. But some readers of the *Thin Red Line* with minds attuned to thought may see these notes and read them with an attention which will survive the perusal, and some day in the future a timely lead in the right direction from these few may save a life here and there among the thirsty irresponsibles.

What is there about water which it is useful for you to remember? It is not necessary to trouble about why it is and what it is, but you should know—for your own health's sake—some other practical facts in connection with it, such as its quality and quantity in relation to the needs of troops; the sources of its supply; the best ways to collect and store it; and how to purify it if you find it not fit to drink; and it is useful to know, I don't say you *want* to know, some of the diseases you are liable to get from impure water. At any time in the course of your service you might be called upon to find a water-supply, or even more difficult, choose the better of two supplies.

There can't always be someone round to do this for you, but you will want a drink whether there is or not, and every one ought to know how to manage for himself, to know good water from bad, and if he can't get good, at least to make the bad harmless. A man seldom bothers about these things; all he cares about, if he is thirsty, is to get a drink, no matter what, and if the thirst is bad, small blame to him for that.

There is always the comfortable conviction that it is some one else's business to put him right if the drink was bad, so with a light heart he takes his fill. But this is wrong. "I'll No. 9" that soundest of military institutions, which had its birth in the pre-historic past, and should have every British campaign known to history emblazened in pure gold on its modest label, cannot always be relied on for a miracle. Prevention is better than cure, so take heed to the following:—

Firstly—As to quality of drinking water. Of course it is an obvious thing that wholesome

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water in sufficient quantity is a fundamental necessity. Man cannot keep healthy without it, and in all investigation of a *sanitary* kind—by which word is meant every possible circumstance affecting physical well-being, water should be made the very starting point of inquiry. It becomes more and more evident, year by year, how frequently disease is introduced by the agency of water—whether drunk, or used for other purposes. This being so, how are you, in a ready and satisfactory way, to determine the quality of water? Well, good water should have the following characteristics, and if these conditions be fulfilled by any particular supply, and the source of the water, which I will tell you about later, be also found satisfactory, you may have small hesitation in having your drink.

It should be quite clear, *i.e.*, with no particles of any kind floating about in it.

It should be sparkling, showing that plenty of air is mixed with it, and it should be quite free from any distinct color, or any taste or smell. Looked at through glass, a column of water several inches high, resting on a white ground such as a piece of paper, it should show a very faint bluish or greenish tint. If the tint be brown or yellow, the water is bad, unless it should happen to belong to a peaty district.

This test, which is a very good one, can easily be carried out with a peg tumbler and a piece of paper. It is difficult to imagine any circumstances under which a peg tumbler is not at hand, or thereabouts.

The above are to the naked eye characteristics of good water. They are of great importance, but there is still more to see to.

Secondly—You must then think of the various sources of drinking water, and consider that from which you are taking your supply.

First Source.—*Rain Water.*—Of course all water is originally rain water, which in its turn comes from the sea, but that is not the point. The question is, is it fit to drink.

Of all sources of supply it approaches nearest to absolute purity, when in clear air; and it becomes highly charged with air—which is a good thing, as it falls. In vitiated atmospheres it collects impurities. It is therefore not good when collected on the sites of recent battles, in hot climates, and under conditions of that kind.

The disadvantages are, of course, its uncertainty and the large size of reservoirs required for its storage. In this country, where it is stored in tanks, which are the common receptacles for all the filth of the neighbourhood, where the unspeakable native washes himself, his family, his dishes and clothes, and his friend who has died of cholera, perhaps—this source of supply is absolutely bad. The water which caused the outbreak of cholera in the Regiment last February came from one of these tanks, and I was able to find out that a death from cholera had occurred a few days previously among the natives who used this same tank.

If it can be collected pure and in sufficient quantity, it should be used in all places where the spring or well water is open to suspicion.

Second Source.—*Spring Water.*—This contains a large quantity of carbonic acid gas, and is therefore almost always clear and bright. It is rich in mineral salts, which are wholesome, and is usually cool, unless the spring is more than 200 feet deep. It is generally quite safe to drink this sort of water.

Third Source.—*Well Water.*—This is of two kinds—from shallow and deep wells. A deep well is anything over 100 feet deep. Water from shallow wells is never good, because it drains the surrounding ground, and carries down with it all sorts of surface contamination, and the well is not deep enough to have had the water it contains filtered by the earth through which it has passed. It should never be drunk without boiling. Deep wells are much safer, as the previous filtration of the water through the ground is much more complete. These wells are best for drinking purposes, but should have their mouths covered.

You must remember this about wells, that if overworked, that is, if more water is taken from them than usual, the water is apt to become impure. The reason for this is that a well containing a definite amount of water drains a definite area of soil. If an extra amount of water be withdrawn, the well taps extra soil to replace the water it has lost, and the new soil may contain impurities. So if a larger supply than ordinary has to be taken from a well, the water should be boiled before use, to provide for this possibility.

Fourth Source.—*River Water.*—This is uncertain in quality. If the river flows rapidly, and is near its source, it is safer than a wide, sluggish one Always boil this water.

Fifth Source.—*Distilled Water.*—This will not usually be available, but when it is, it is quite a safe drink. It is not very palatable.

Little is actually known as to the result of deprivation of water on man, as regards his internal economy. Thirst, which is the most delicate and imperative of our sensations, prevents the supply becoming too small, but when water is short, it is known that the desire for it is so great that men will run any danger and ignore the most elementary precautions to satisfy thirst. Any man who has been in a tropical climate, under service conditions, will realize this.

Thirst must be assuaged, and there is terrible danger in the assuaging. Everything may rise till the man has drunk his fill. It's no good telling him with his cracked tongue hanging out of his mouth, to get some water, light a fire, boil the water, let it cool, then drink, just a little at a

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time. The advice is frequently given, but it doesn't quite meet the case. It leaves him thirsty. Get your man before hand, when he's cool, give him a supply of good water to carry with him. Tell him to nurse it properly between whiles, and always have a little left when it's time to have his water bottle filled again. It is difficult to make a man realize that while on the march the less he drinks the fitter he will be, and that he will do a better day's work with a pebble in his mouth than a gallon of water in his stomach. Think that over, and next time try it.

It is well to remember that your water bottle is always the better for boiling. If this cannot be done you can always scald the inside with boiling water and a little soda, and you should do so often.

About water for washing. That does not require much talking about in these times, when washing is a daily routine for everybody. The days are passed of the famous Private MacPherson, who was told off for being dirty on the doctor's report that he had Itch. "Sir"! says he "ALL the MacPhersons have itch." What more was then to be said?

Queen Elizabeth was noted among other things for being able to keep her hands and face clean for a whole week without washing. It was a distinction emulated by many but achieved by few. Before the introduction of baths into houses about the beginning of last century, itch was universal, and daily washing is a comparatively modern custom. On that point then I need say nothing, but the question of how much to drink can be summed up in the words "drink as little as you can." As we are only discussing water, I won't talk about any other drinks, but it might not be out of place. It can do no harm, and will certainly do no good, to remark that alcohol in any form should only be taken with meals in a hot country. For the purpose of the argument, this country, so far as I have observed, is not a hot one. Verb. Sap!

With regard to the evil results of drinking impure water much might be said. I have only space for a few of the more important diseases which are conveyed by this means. Chief among them come the two hungry fiends *cholera* and typhoid, or as the latter is usually called, *enteric*.

Evidence is overwhelming that these diseases are chiefly spread by water. Let us take cholera first.

We live here in Calcutta in the original home and happy hunting ground of this terrible disease. It is communicated from one person to another through water which has become tainted with choleraic discharges from the first attacked, and may be spread by actually drinking the water, or eating vegetables and fruits, &c., which have been washed in it. Fertile sources of infection are native sweets, native mineral waters and native drinking vessels. Distrust everything native as you would the devil himself. If anything, a little more. The cholera season is approaching with the rains. We do not want it among us again, so be wary, and if you are thirsty then stay thirsty till you are in your own lines and can get a wholesome drink.

I think every man of the NINETY-THIRD knows by this time, how to avoid cholera. It will pay him to take the trouble to think about it.

The same remarks apply to enteric, with this addition, that you should be particularly careful about drinking milk, which is very often a carrier of this disease.

The rest of the list is too long to be taken in detail. It is depressing to contemplate the things which may grow out of a mouthful of bad water. And now, having like an evil prophet, passed in array all the woes and tribulations which are likely to fall upon you, I will finish up by suggesting what you can do to avoid getting caught by any of these insidious lurking foes.

If the only water you can get is bad, how can you make it drinkable? That brings me to *purification of water*, and as the first and best of all ways, I advise you to *boil it*.

Bad water once boiled is safe, twice boiled it is quite safe. Once, for all practical purposes, is enough. The boiling must be thorough and should be kept up for quite fifteen minutes. This process kills all bacteria, and probably lessens organic matters. It at least renders it harmless, and it also gets rid of certain injurious mineral constituents.

Distillation is a good method, but is not usually available. It is a slow process and requires apparatus. Distilled water is exceedingly good for drinking purposes.

Filtration.—This is not applicable to troops on a large scale, except in permanent garrisons.

On the line of march and active service.—You must recognize at once that it is hopeless to attempt to make a polluted water safe by simple filtration. In practice it is found, at such times, that filters are not satisfactory. There are innumerable types of filter, perhaps the best is that which depends on the mechanical separation of bacteria and other matter from the water by forcing it through porcelain. In fairly clear water this type of filter is excellent and works well, but in very muddy water, which most requires filtering, the porcelain becomes choked almost at once, and the filter is useless. There is a very good apparatus of this kind in the Regimental mineral water factory, Dalhousie Barrack, which works well. Have nothing whatever to do with charcoal filters. There is no better substance in the world than charcoal for helping the growth of all sorts of bacteria. In addition to being the worst kind of filtering substance, it is also the most largely used. You will find charcoal filters

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everywhere, but if you are wise you will leave them severely alone, or at all events boil the water from them before you drink it.

Filtration at best is imperfect, and not to be relied on under any circumstances.

Chemical processes.—There are many of these. They act by throwing to the bottom of the water all matters floating about in it, and in the case of permanganate of potassium, by adding oxygen to these matters, which renders them more less harmless. You have all seen "pinked water." It is a good method of purifying when the water is fairly good to begin with.

Alum is largely used and is very good. A small pinch is added to every gallon of water. It is not much good if the supply is very polluted.

On the whole, of all these methods, boiling is by far the best and most satisfactory way of sterilizing water. It is safe, and easy to do, and can be carried out on as large a scale as necessary without much extra trouble.

As I have already said, it must be done in plenty of time, not begun when every one is already thirsty. It will be a blessed day for the British army when every water cart is nothing more or less than a large kettle on wheels, in which ample supplies can be prepared, during a halt, of safe drinking water. There will still be men, even in that enlightened age, who will prefer the undoctored mud puddle on the spot to the clear water a little further on, but so there will in every thing be always something of the unaccountable.

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HOW PAT APOLOGISED.

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He had come to put in the coal. The cook lady and a visiting lady friend came out from the area to watch him do it. He lifted the coal-hole cover and dropped it on his foot. "Death and Ages!" was his first vociferation. Then followed a torrent that would have wrinkled the tin roof had it been twenty feet nearer the sidewalk.

"The divil fly 'way wid it!" he finally added, when the pain subsided somewhat. But the expected sympathy was not forthcoming, either from the cook lady or her friend. In fact, the former was red in the face with suppressed indignation.

"How dare ye spake so in the prisince of leddys?" she said; "it's insulted we are!"

Despite the pain, his reply was ready. "Phwy, did ye understand phwut Oi wor sayin' in me agony?" he said.

"Faix an' I did, an' but too well!"

"Well, I have only this to say," was his remark; "any female phwut calls herself a leddy, phwut understands the sum and substince of me late remarks, is beyond insult." And, before the gasping cook lady could retort, he turned to her lady friend with, "Did you understand phwut I said?"

"I did not," was the quick reply.

"Then if ye didn't understand, how in th' divil could ye be insulted?"

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Our Contribution Box.

—o—

Since the return of the encamped companies to the fort and their settling down again in barracks, things have "buzzed" apace. Making no difference to us, we have continued the same old methodical movements, and have continued to open and close the dark coloured box on the counter of the grocery bar with unvarying regularity and varying results. From amongst the various contributions collected we intend keeping some as stock material to be drawn upon at any time, and some we have marked off with red pencil for immediate publication. First among these comes an article on "Army Reform," which, written on the back of old envelopes, on the edges of out-of-date newspapers, and on spare pieces of old letters, took us two route marches to decipher and connect. However, we managed after great trial and tribulation, to deduce the following:—

"In all the debates, and in all the advices given, there has not been yet one from amongst ourselves anent Army Reform. No one has ever thought it possible that amongst those whom reform in the army will most effect, there might be one or two or three or a battalion who are willing to give gratis what they know about the question. Seeing, however, that the authorities are bashful and don't like to ask any of us, I make myself so brave as to give what I think without being asked.

To break the subject up into headings there are 5. 1st, Pay; 2nd, Discipline; 3rd, Parades; 4th, Duties; and 5th, Length of service. To begin with pay, I would do away with the existing system of drawing weekly a certain sum as pocket money, as too much money in the pocket at one time is a burden which none of my soldier friends or myself can bear. To get rid of this burden we all should like to see money in the army done away with, unless when one is in hospital, when a sixpence or six annas per day should be allowed for contingent expenses and the buying of a "dodger", or squaring the ward boy to wash and clean up one's dishes after meal times. No money is wished for by anyone unless in the circumstances mentioned above, and oh what a happy life it would be! No debts to pay at the end of the month to one's bed chum, or to the Lance-Corporal one has been "pee-heeing" for the last six months for the rub of a chip,—it would indeed be a glorious realization of the millenium, all that one would require to do when he felt thirsty would be to go to the canteen and have a drink out of a glass tumbler, sitting meanwhile on a plush covered settee half concealed in shrubs and palm trees, stuck in vases of best Staffordshire. Again one might feel hungry, to satisfy which all one would

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require to do would be to adjourn to the coffee shop (which would be named under the altered regime "Cafe de Gendarme") and tuck in as much as he could, being served as he ate by all the hours of a Mahomedan's heaven. These are a few of the benefits that would arise from the "pay system", or rather non-pay system, advocated at least by one in every million of British soldiers. However, how to do when one went to see one's friends outside of the army I have not settled. Whether it is best for one to draw upon the war office for an advance of Good Conduct pay, or whether it would be better for one to do "beaching" the whole time he was with his friends is the thing I have not settled, and leave over until next "General Election" at home, when I intend placing it before the editor of "Truth" for consideration. Having so far disclosed my views let us now proceed to seeondly, which is of course "Discipline."

Discipline—it's a hard nut to crack, and is thought upon in so many different ways by different people that on the matter I can only give my own idea, but at the same time I may remark that the only people who I ever heard give an opinion upon discipline were those who knew nothing about it. I read once a woman's opinion of it, and all the time I was reading, the idea of what a "hippen" was used for, kept coming to me. However, it is not exactly discipline that is hard to bear, it is those little things directly and indirectly connected with it, such as cleaning straps (when one all the time knows that it is only in order to dirty them again), and having to go to bed at certain hours, and after certain hours to be speechless, when one is bursting to tell of who he saw in town last, and of a lot more things that never occurred to one as worth telling until he could not tell of them; again of having to be out of bed by a certain unearthly hour in the morning when one is just discovering what a nice place bed is. These are some of the things that are disagreeable, and with having to pay for being a "thora" tipsy after one has been paying all night to get so, are about very near the sum of one's complaint against what people that don't who anything about it call discipline. To do away with these little annoyances I propose the following:—

First there's the strap cleaning. To save anyone the bother of this I propose that a time-expired soldier or two should be kept by each company and paid out of the company messing account for the cleaning of accoutrement, etc. The going to bed and the not speaking after a certain hour question I would settle this way. Let there be no restriction of noises after "lights out," and rather than what it is at present let the N. C. O's in charge of each section get up a fight for the edification of others, and have them form a band of musicians each with a tin whistle and one with a bath tub as a big drum, and two others with wash-hand basins as side drums. Having formed such a band let the senior sergeant or at least the senior corporal have them to parade nightly at 10-30, and after having circumvented twice the limits of barracks, let him take them to the officers' quarters for serenading purposes up to 12 M.N. So long as there is plenty of noise made, there is no great necessity for there being ought of melody. With people that can't stand more than 13 pints of a night, I would propose that they should be under medical supervision until they can. After this if they should feel bad after the fourteenth pint, get them to claim their discharge as being the only support of a widowed mother. However, if this should not be agreed to, confine them for two days in the back bar of the canteen and then set them forth to look for a "pick-me-up" with not a cent in their pocket; for the most severe of punishments to one that has been "glorious" the night before is the wakening up in the morning without the prospect of having a wet at twelve."

Having written so much we begin to perceive that for all that is written by this army reformer for the "Thin Yin" there is not room enough. To get it all in we would require to write short hand and speak it so, therefore we abridge the contents of the MS., and only give short extracts. On *parades* he has filled up the backs of 25 envelopes, about 3 feet of newspaper edging, and a dozen different pieces of old letters. Amongst the many original remarks on parades we but sample one and give it word for word. "Parades" says the army reformer, "as they now stand are bores, and are not relished by any unless by those whose lives have been a continual bore and they know no better. To remedy this fault of parades being "borish" I would have them done away with, and when an officer commanding a battalion wished his men to show how they could slope arms, I would have him come to each man individually with the news that he wished them out for a walk to-morrow, with perhaps at the end of the walk a visit to the Zoological Gardens, and a lecture to be given by the Sergeant-Major on Natural History."

On duties he has not much to say, but what he does say he puts briefly in the words, "There should be none." On length of service he has written quiet sufficient to keep one reading for a period of 21 years, and as the majority of us are but seven years' men long before we had finished the reading, we would all be time X. We therefore but give a paragraph of this lengthy MS. intending to finish up with it. Commencing he remarks "when one goes up to join the army, the recruiting officer should ask the intended recruit how long he is willing to serve. The

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recruit under the new regulations will in all likelihood answer thus. "Well I would like to see India, stay a short time in South Africa, and visit Hong-Kong on the way home." The recruiting officer will of course reply that he would not be able to manage such under three years six months and a fortnight. The recruit then takes on for four years, but regretting the bargain that he had made he gives in his warning, and after drawing compensation for a hair-brush and a box of tooth paste he is placed on the reserve to come again when he likes, or when he feels hungry.

Having copied the foregoing until of copying we were tired, we laid aside the whole of our collected manuscript for a time and had a holiday. Tired of having a holiday we had again to fall back upon the black box for employment, and after putting some of our collections past, and marking some with red pencil we chose one as it stood somewhat in the light of a set-off to the one we had already copied. Staid and respectable and written on thin country paper, it put us in mind of what we were ourselves thirteen years ago—an attender of the "kirk," without ever a thought of spending a "pice" on beer or anything stronger than "Brown Robin." It commenced in the usual conventional style of occasional correspondents to Aunty Katie's column in the Weekly News, and said "Dear Mr. Editor, I take the liberty of requesting that you will insert the following in some of your valuable space not occupied, as it deals with a subject interesting to the majority of your regimental readers," etc, etc.,—but if we were to publish it all, there would be no "valuable space" left for anything else, so it has been marked and docketed for future consideration.

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"After."

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The screaming shell has ceased to cleave the air,
And night-clouds hide the sun-god's tortuous glare,
From dead and dying.

On earth the gloom of an advancing night,
The groanings and the sorrows of the fight
And overhead—the stars.

Below, the wreckage of the work of God;
Creation sullen, bleeding from the rod,
Ploughman and noble.

To the great golden Throne of glorious light,
Through the vast crevices of space
Where there is neither sorrow, day, nor night;
Turmoil of nations, difference in race;
Over the soft sad sighing of the breeze,
Curses delirious, prayers from bended knees,
Souls, filled with anguish for their wasted day,
Passing beyond for ever and for aye.

C. B.

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To Delhi from Umballa.

—o—

1.

They took us from our stations,
And brought us to Umballa,
With little more than what we wore,
To play the field-de-lalla.
We marched, manœuvred, all day long,
And slept in any hollow
With little more than what we wore
The day we saw Umballa.

2.

They fed us on the richest;
One biscuit by the way,
With promise of another
When we rested for the day:
Oh! they fed us on the richest,
And kept us at the rally
On the march and off the march
To Delhi from Umballa.

3.

We fought; we swore, and volleyed off
A hundred rounds of cases
Made now and then a Highland charge
From half a dozen places.
We saw them fly, and fly again,
But they would always rally,
And kept us at a sorry march
To Delhi from Umballa.

4.

Our feet, our backs, our hearts, were sore,
With little to relieve them;
But still we did with no regard
Blow puffs of cordite at them.
And still we marched along all day,
And made pretence 'twas jolly,
But heavy hearts beat 'neath the belts
Dyed khaki for Umballa.

5.

The cannons roared an empty challenge,
We answered back as hollow,
For we at war were only playing
To Delhi from Umballa.
'Twas but a lesson at the game—
A game that's utter folly
For so we thought as we marched along
To Delhi from Umballa.

6.

Sown there's seeds of sickness
In erstwhile stalwart frames,
Sown there's seeds of trouble
At this protracted game,
That will sprout and bear their fruit
When stalwart frames are needed,
But what?—oh no!—we've reached Delhi
So these are never heeded.

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Extract from Certain Orders.

Owing to the suspension of traffic on the evening of 28th January 1903, all "troops" wearing No. 12 shoes will be required to "walk out" in bare feet.

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Second Sight.

—o—

In reading the February number of the *Thin Red Line* I noticed mention being made of "Second Sight" by Mr. Forbes Mitchell in rather a scoffing manner. I know not how it is, but ever since an experience of my own, when a young man I put a great deal of faith, more than is usual, in this "Second Sight." Being of a mystical turn of mind myself, and coming of a family wherein personages in their own localities have been famed for the foretelling of future events, I suppose what then happened to me was but the family gift appearing. I was but a youth at the time, but still, as fresh as though it happened yesterday, I remember this particular episode, and the events leading up to it.

It was early in the seventies of last century, when after an absence of a couple of years from home I was returning from Glasgow, on a holiday to my parental Isle—Islay. The day was dull, and inclined to be rough, which made the passage anything but pleasant. What we experienced however on the journey down the Firth of Clyde was but an interlude to what we had after rounding the Mull. Sheltered at first by the Peninsula, we on rounding its extremity had the full benefit of What was to my idea a gale. Not being intended for a seafaring life I knew but little of the sea, and what I thought a gale was but a breeze to those accustomed to weather it on the deep. However, it was sufficiently stormy for me to feel disagreeably ill and out of sorts. Confining myself to my bunk, I had dosed about half the journey away, when I fell into a deep sleep, from which I awakened with a start and a dread as if I felt that there was something near not "canny." Turning over on my side and facing outwards I was astonished to find some one standing by my side. His clothing seemed to be dripping wet, and as this was the first thing I noticed, out of a strange curiosity, I leant over to see what mess the water was making on the deck. Not a drop, however, of water was to be seen there, though *there* I saw it, dropping and glistening from his clothes in the faint light of the bulkhead lamp. Proceeding next to inspect him all over I commenced first with his legs, which, being on a level with my head, were handy. In a leisurely manner I noted mentally that they were cased in some yellow oilskin material, which was very much frayed and worn. Here and there the waterproof material was worn away, while all over great splatches of tar and grease made it rather difficult for one to judge of what stuff the leggings were. However, having satisfied myself that they were made of oilskin, I next allowed myself to inspect the body. Clad in a rough woollen jersey that clung in its soaked state into the great contour of chest, and which through torn stitches and rents shewed glimpses of the skin, I remember muttering to myself "rough and ragged, you," as I wandered next to the face which, fringed with a big black beard, seemed to be exceptionally pale, and just where the hair of the head and whiskers met, a great gash appeared. All these things I noticed with an unconscious minuteness. Having surveyed him to my satisfaction I next intended to speak, but no sooner had I uttered the first syllable, when the figure disappeared. Somewhat shaken I hastily dressed and went on deck, expecting to find that some of the crew had made a mistake in coming to the wrong bunk. No such thing it was, however, for none of them that I saw resembled he who had visited me.

Nearing the end of our journey the incident was almost forgotten in the pleasure of viewing old landmarks again. Occasionally it came to me with a hankering that I had somewhere seen my visitor's face, but whose and where I could not say. Reaching Bowmore I forgot all about it in the excitement of landing, and seeing old faces, and hearing old voices. Soon my two stalwart brothers, half fishers and half farmers, had my luggage hoisted into the cart waiting on the pier for me and my belongings. Now walking and now riding, and getting all the news of home and neighbourhood as I went, the farm-yard was reached before I thought half the way we had to go had been traversed. Into the big spacious farm kitchen was I taken, and who should be sitting by the fire, but he who had come to me on board the steamer the night previous. There he sat by the kitchen fire in the self same dress (only it was not in the dilapidated condition I had seen it in) smoking and spitting in a lively enough manner and sufficient for me to understand this time I saw no wraith. Lord, and it turned out to be Ian Dhu, my cousin, who in an interval of four years had sprung up into what he was now, and almost beyond my recognition. Six feet three, stout and brawny, and of a reserved nature, he was mentally and physically Black John all over. Greeting me with a muttered welcome, he continued his smoking and spitting, neither attempting to speak to one or another, nor did he, a little later, offer to join the cheery circle that sat down to partake of the homely and wholesome fare of an Islay farm breakfast.

After a time, when people got accustomed to my presence, and I to theirs, and of a night when gathered round the wide chimney piece they had got tired of hearing my Glasgow experiences, I had a chance of listening to some of their own doings during my absence. Of a uniform living is an island existence, and what in more active centres would be thought nothing of, is of mighty interest to those sometime tillers of the soil, and toilers on the sea. Even then a quarrel was the family topic, between my half brother Ian Dhu and my cousin, his half cousin, Ian Bhan, who was in opposition to his half cousin Black John, named Fair John, and just as the appellation suited Black John, so did Fair suit his cousin. The quarrel had come about over their rival claims to the affections of a neighbouring farmer's daughter. Suiting her own taste, the damsel favoured Ian Bhan's suit, but not in such a manner as to still or banish hope from the heart of Ian Dhu, but sufficiently however did she shew her preference as to keep his reticent passion in a continual ferment. Seeking of course to fix his ill nature on some one, he found no better mark than his more successful rival, who as high spirited as himself replied in as high handed a manner. Six months previous to my return the disagreement had come to open fight, in which Ian Dhu, though by far the strongest, was much the heavier, and therefore the less agile of the two, suffered defeat.

Ever since then he retired more than ever within himself, and more bitter shewed his spirit of resentment against Ian Dhu, until he was forced to leave and visit for a time a relation in the more inland parts of the island. Such was the way things stood on my arrival, and how long they would have stood so I know not, but thinking I might do good I attempted a reconciliation. My good intentions were so far successful as to bring about a seeming agreement, and Ian Bhan

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returned. As things turned out afterwards the agreement was but on the surface, while the old enmity still continued to be fostered, in the breast of Black John at all events. The term of my holiday was nearing a close, and to have the most of the remaining days I could possibly claim from the night, I was always up in the morning with the first stirring of the house. One morning going into the kitchen before any of the others and expecting it to be empty, I was astonished to find the seat usually occupied by Ian Dhu filled by himself, he who we all thought on the waters between the fishing grounds and Loch Indual or thereabouts. However, there he was, nor stirred nor moved, nor paid the least attention to the clanking of my rough shoes on the flagstones. As I came further into the light that streamed in through the small window I was more than surprised to see that his clothes were here and there tangled with sea-weed, and clinging to his body as if sodden. At this I was about to express my surprise, and had the first few words uttered when he arose from his chair and walked out at the kitchen door into the entry that lead into the back yard of the house. As he passed, I remarked that his face was exceedingly pale, and from the glimpse I got I imagined there was blood on his temple. Saying nothing to anyone, but feeling somewhat more than annoyed, I waited for developments.

At breakfast time as we sat down, where I expected to see Ian Dhu, one or two (my two brothers' and a sister's) faces bore anxious looks, while beside the absent Black John my mother did not appear. As the day wore on, I had the reason of the troubled looks from one of the brothers who told me of Ian Dhu's appearing in the early morning at mother's bed side. Describing his appearance as it was described by her he concluded in an awed sort of tone that there must have happened something to either one or the other, Ian Dhu or Ian Bhan, they two having gone off together the evening previous in the fishing yawl. Considering a bit, I told him my own experiences on board the steamer and in the kitchen that morning, of the appearance each time of Ian and my own conclusions as to what it all meant. Agreeing with me we considered it proper to say nothing in the meantime but wait for further events.

Day by day went passed and yet no appearance of either Ian the Black or Ian the Fair, nor had there been any intelligence of them when I had to return to Glasgow. It might have been a week or so after my return, when I received a letter intimating that the body of Black John had been got off Port St. Mary. It had been some time in the water, and description to the letter of the dress and body fully coincided with that of what had appeared to me and my mother, even to the wound on the temple. Neither the fishing yawl, nor John the fair, ever returned, and the secret of the death of Black John went with them, although pretty clear the case stood that they had quarrelled.

And so, such has been my slight experience in regard to second sight, and to vouch for it my wife is quite willing, she being no other than the farmer's daughter over whom the whole disaster occurred.

JOHN MACDONALD.

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Athletics.

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HOCKEY.

The following is an account of the matches played by the Regimental Hockey Team during the month of March :—

Date.	Against.	Ground.	Result.	Goals. For	Goals. Agt.
Mar. 7th	Sporting Club.	93rd Highlanders.	Won	2	...
„ 10th	Sporting Union.	„	„	4	1
„ 11th	Calcutta F. C.	Calcutta	Lost	...	1
„ 14th	Ballygunge	Ballygunge	Won	3	1
„ 17th	Calcutta F. C.	Calcutta	Drawn	1	1
„ 19th	79th R.G.A.	„	Lost	3	1
„ 24th	„	93rd Highlanders.	Drawn	...	...
„ 25th	St. James' College.	„	Lost	1	4
„ 30th	Howrah	„	Won	2	...

Total—Matches played, 9. Won, 4. Lost, 3. Drawn 2. Goals for, 16. Against, 9.

On 10th March we played our first Hockey match of the season on our ground *vs.* The Sporting Union Club. Play commenced punctually at 5-30 P.M., and after a good run down the field by McMillan and Lieut. J. Kennedy, Lieut. Akers-Douglas scored the first goal. The Sporting Union then played up well, but could not get through the home defence, and shortly before half time Lieut. J. Kennedy scored the second goal. On changing ends the visitors pressed for a time and succeeded in scoring a goal from a splendid shot that Skeane had no chance of saving. The home forwards soon asserted themselves again and McMillan scored an excellent goal. Shortly before time another point was added leaving our team victors by 4—1.

CALCUTTA F. C.—Played on the Calcutta Ground on 12th March. The game started with a rush by the Calcutta forwards and Skeane was called upon to save; the ball was soon transferred to the Calcutta end, but without effect; play was then of a very even character for the rest of the first half and on the whistle going for half time neither side had scored. On changing ends Calcutta once began to press but Skeane again saved in fine style, however shortly afterwards another fine run by Calcutta enabled Sherman to score. Play for the rest of the game was very even. Calcutta finally winning by the narrow margin of 1 goal to *nil*.

BALLYGUNGE.—Played at Ballygunge on 14th March. Play was of a very even character throughout, both teams being in excellent form in the first half. After some very good play by the visitors' forwards, Lieut. O. C. Herbert scored, Ballygunge failing to equalize; on changing ends the visitors had the best of the game, Mr. Herbert adding two more goals; Ballygunge made several good rushes, and Zimmerman scored for the home team; the game ending in a win for the Highlanders by 3 goals to 1.

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79TH R. G. A.—Played on the Calcutta Ground on 19th March. The Gunners, as soon as the ball was knocked off, began to press and within a few minutes of the start scored, this they shortly followed up by adding a second point. The Gunners continued to press, but a good run by our forwards enabled Lieut. O. C. Herbert to score. At half time the 79th R. G. A. led by 2—1. On resuming, the Gunners pressed throughout and added another point to their score finally winning by 3 goals to 1.

79TH R. G. A.—Played on our Ground on 24th March. This game was of a very even character throughout, and although both sides nearly scored, the goal-keeper proved equal to the occasions and an exciting game ended in a draw of no goals being scored. Lieuts. Bruce and Cheape and Pte. Comrie played best for our side, while Gunner Wallace and Mr. Dougall distinguished themselves for the visitors.

ST. JAMES' COLLEGE.—Played on our Ground on 25th March. After a fast game the College proved too strong for us and defeated us by 4 goals to *nil*. Play during the first half was fairly even, the visitors scoring one goal; but on changing ends the visitors forwards broke away and scored 3 times in rapid succession.

HOWRAH UNITED.—Played on our Ground on 30th March. After a good game the Home side succeeding in winning by 2 goals to *nil*. In the first half Comrie scored and in the second Lieut. Cheape.

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FOOTBALL.

INTER-COMPANY LEAGUE.

Owing to the numerous other games which were taking place, it was decided to play the league this year on the knock-out principle, a decision with which every one will agree. When there are so many games of hockey and football going on, it is a great advantage to have the competition for the clock decided as quickly as possible, before interest in the result has begun to flag.

Appended is a list and some account of the individual matches, which were—

1st Round.

"F" Company beat "G" Company by 1 goal to 0.
"C" " " "A" " " 1 " " 0.
"D" " " "E" " " 2 " " 1.
"H" " " "B" " " 2 " " 1.

Semi-Finals.

"C" Company beat "F" Company by 2 goals to 1.
"H" " " "D" " " 2 " " 0.

Final.

"C" Company beat "H" Company by 1 goal to 0.

All played on the Regimental Ground.

"*F*" *Company* vs. "*G*" *Company*.—23rd March. The former were without the services of three of their regular players, while "G" Company had their full team. The ball being kicked off at 5 P.M., for the first half it was very uncertain which of the two teams was the stronger. After half time however "F" Company exerted themselves and scored a goal, and then more give and take play followed, both goals being visited in turn. At the call of time the score had remained unchanged, leaving "F" Company the winners by one goal to love.

"*C*" *Company* vs. "*A*" *Company*.—24th March. Both teams turned out in full strength and the game was an excellent exhibition of attack and defence. "C" Company, however, eventually proved themselves more than equal to the occasion and won by one goal to love.

"*D*" *Company* vs. "*E*" *Company*.—25th March. It was evident from the start that both teams, which were in full strength, were equally determined not to be beaten. "D" Company won the toss and for a quarter of an hour both teams exerted themselves to the utmost, and "E" Company effected some respite by netting the ball. Till half time the score remained the same. After a few minutes' rest the players again took the field, when "D" Company carried the ball down the ground, only to meet with the stoutest opposition, which, however, they succeeded in overpowering, thus equalizing the score, one goal all. As soon as the ball came into play again the game became faster than ever and the defence at both ends was called into action alternately. About 10 minutes before time, however, "D" Company again succeeded in scoring from a magnificent low shot which found the net. They maintained the lead till the whistle went, thus winning by two goals to one.

"*H*" *Company* vs. "*B*" *Company*.—26th March. This match also provided a capital game, being fast and well contested, both teams proving themselves masters of the game. "H" Company retired winners by two goals to one.

"*C*" *Company* vs. "*F*" *Company*.—26th March. These teams met in the first match of the semi-final round, both turning out their full strength. "C" Company, who showed excellent form, succeeded in gaining two goals to their opponents' *nil*, after a hard-fought game.

"*H*" *Company* vs. "*D*" *Company*.—27th March. "D" Company, who had played in one of the hardest games of the first round, met their match in the semi-final and had to acknowledge defeat at the hands of "H" Company, who well deserved their victory by two goals to love.

The final had thus to be decided between "C" Company and "H" Company. They met on the 28th of March, and it was thought that owing to three of "C" Company's team having gone to the hills, their opponents had the game in their hands. Events did not justify this opinion however. "C" Company played a magnificent defensive game for the first half, and no scoring took place. On the kick off after half time "H" Company set to work in a determined manner, but Hogg proved equal to the occasion, playing a fine game, and when time was called, no goals had been registered on either side. Without leaving the field, they carried on at once to play the extra 10 minutes each way. After about 5 minutes' play, "C" Company got a penalty kick which Lapsley took in fine style, the ball finding the net. They then resumed the defensive and no more scoring took place, leaving them the fortunate possessors of the clock.

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The account of the formation of a new Temperance Society with the object of putting a stop to drinking between meals has recalled to mind the following deliverance of a Highland minister whose parishioners were notorious for their unregulated drinking:—"And, noo, ma friends, this tram-tramming and trink trinking must not and shall not conteenue; not that I object to a sma' glass of a morning when an acquaintance comes to see you—but this tram-tramming, &c." He then added—"And, if a friend should look in upon you in the afternoon, there would be no reason against your giving him a trop of the cratur—but this tram-traming, &c. Lastly, if a neighbour should turn up in the evening, it would hardly be civil to let him go away without a nip—but this tram-tramming and trink-trinking must not and shall not conteenue."—*Stirling Sentinel*.

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Temperance Notes.

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R. A. T. A.

Looking at the last annual return, which was sent in on the 31st March 1903, I cannot help remarking that there seems to be a want of co-operation on the part of the officers and members of this Branch, as the following figures will show :—

Strength of Battalion	...	1,135
„ „ Membership	...	260
Non-members ...	...	875

and of these members only 130 are of over three months' standing. I think these figures speak for themselves, and I am sure that if this catches the eye of any old member or person interested in temperance. they will agree with me in saying that we have never had such a small percentage of members since the Branch was started, and I hope that all who profess any interest at all for our Branch will do their utmost to make it as popular as ever it was.

In strange contrast to the above the funds have never been in a better condition, which shows that the bar at least has not lost its popularity. I hope the above statement will lead supporters of the Branch to enter into the spirit of the temperance work, and that through their help a better account may be forthcoming next month.

The following are the honours secured for the quarter ending 31st March 1903 :—

SIX MONTHS' STAR.

"A" Company.

Bandsman Willmore. | Private Jamieson.
Piper Taylor. | „ Gamble.

"B" Company.

Bandsman Bennett.

"C" Company.

Lance-Corporal Young. | Private Carlyle.
Private Hewitt. | „ McDonald.
Private Smith.

"D" Company.

Private Muir.

"E" Company.

Private Riggins. | Private Scrymgeour.
Piper Smith.

"F" Company.

Private Chalmers.

"G" Company.

Private Gibbons. | Private Wardrope.

"H" Company.

Corporal Silcock. | Private Gray.
Private Brodie. | „ Walker.
„ Dicker. | Boy Planner.

ONE YEAR'S MEDAL.

"A" Company.

Bandsman Willmore. | Lce.-Cpl. Brown.
Piper Taylor. | Private Paterson.

"C" Company.

Lce.-Cpl. Young. | Private Carlyle.
Private Vernon. | „ Hewitt.
„ Bell. | „ McDonald.

"D" Company.

Lance-Corporal Hutchinson.

"G" Company.

Private Dickson. | Private McKinnon.
Private Rennie.

"H" Company.

Corporal Silcock.

TWO YEARS' MEDAL.

Piper	... Gunn	...	"A" Company.
Drummer	... Laird	...	"B" „
Lce.-Corpl.	... Young	...	"C" „
Private	... Carlyle	...	"C" „
„	... McCreath	...	"F" „
„	... Donaldson	...	"G" „
„	... Lees	...	"G" „
„	... Smith	...	"G" „
„	... McMillan	...	"G" „
„	... Halley	...	"H" „
„	... Preston	...	"H" „

THREE YEARS' MEDAL.

Lce.-Corpl.	... Young	...	"C" Company.
„	... Downs	...	"C" „
Private	... Carlyle	...	"C" „
Piper	... Allan	...	"F" „
„	... McMillan	...	"G" „
Private	... McMillan, G.	...	"G" „
„	... McMillan, J.	...	"G" „
„	... Smith	...	"G" „
Corporal	... Stewart	...	"H" „

FOUR YEARS' BAR.

Private	... Gibson	...	"A" Company.
Lce.-Corpl.	... Young	...	"C" „
Private	... Cairns	...	"D" „
„	... McGinley	...	"E" „
„	... Baxter	...	"F" „
„	... McLaren	...	"F" „
„	... McMillan, G.	...	"G" „

FIVE YEARS' MEDAL.

Private	... Jones	...	"A" Company.
Drummer	... Dunne, C.	...	"C" „
„	... Dunne, E.	...	"E" „
Lce.-Sgt.	... Simpson	...	"H" „
Private	... Wilson	...	"H" „

SIX YEARS' MEDAL.

Private	... Scarff	...	"A" Company.
Lce.-Cpl.	... Thomas	...	"B" „

SEVEN YEARS' MEDAL.

Bandsman	... McGeechan	...	"F" Company.
Private	... Booth	...	"F" „

NINE YEARS' MEDAL.

Corporal	... Buchanan	...	"F" Company

ONE TEN YEARS' AND ONE TWELVE YEARS' MEDAL.

Mr. Finlayson, Bank of Bengal.

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR BARS.

"C" Company.

Lce.-Cpl. Young. | Pte. Carlyle.

GOLD RINGS.

Lce.-Cpl.	... Thomas	...	"B" Company.
Private	... Campbell	...	"F" „

JAMES BUCHANAN, CORPORAL,
Secretary, R. A. T. A.

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An Excuse.

During the stay of a certain Company of Garrison Artillery in Malta one unfortunate of his Company had the bad luck to be absent off church parade one Sunday. Brought before his C. O. on the Monday following, he replied to the question "what have you to say for yourself," with a most truth revealing face, "that yesterday he had visited the Royal Garrison Regiment, and had overstayed his time in getting his father ready for guard."

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Lieut.-Col. John Angus writes to the 79th News, the Regimental paper of the Cameron Highlanders, from the Rifle Depôt at Gosport:—"Years ago the depôts of the 78th, 79th and 93rd were at Aberdeen, and in those days there lived a Mr. Samuel Martin, 'Hatter to the People,' as he called himself, a real good old Scots gentleman. He was a great favourite with the Aberdeen Depôt for his quaintness, and the copy of a parchment certificate which I attach might amuse some of the former old officers of the 79th. The Capt. Forbes whose name is below, and who was called 'Boggy,' I knew in the 78th. Peter Borthwick of course I knew when I was myself in the 79th, and many would remember Dick Nightingale of the 93rd":—

"We have it on command, as witness our respective seals and signatures hereto attached, to appoint you, Samuel Martin, Hatter to the People, of 34, Union Street, Aberdeen, 'Bonnet Cocker to the Highland Brigade,' and you will hereafter enjoy in full right and title such privileges appertaing to the office. Given under our Signatures and Seals at Aldershot this 19th day of May, 1874.

BOGGY

DICK

PETER

—:o:—

That the Calcutta public appreciate the Band of the 93rd Highlanders was shewn by the very large attendance at the Eden Gardens last Saturday evening, and we must congratulate Band Sergeant Hall on the excellent programme to which he treated us. All the items were pleasing and attractive, whilst several were—we believe—played by special request and were deservedly applauded. Starting with Souza's stirring March *El Capitan*, which was played with much verve and spirit, we were next treated to a selection by the Pipers who have evidently become quite an institution at these gatherings, and cannot fail to remind the many Scotsmen present of the "Dear home land." They are always great favourites, play well and contribute largely and often to the evening's enjoyment. The selection of *Scotch Songs* by the Band (by request) was rendered with great taste, the old tunes losing none of their sweetness under the Conductor's able baton. It was a long item and most heartily appreciated by everybody. The Cornet Solo, Sullivan's *Lost Chord* was also delightful and seems to have an evergreen popularity amongst all classes. It was certainly played well and with much expression. This Band makes a speciality of vocal selections and the one chosen, *Reminiscences of the Plantation* introducing the Songs "Old Kentucky Home," "Poor Old Joe," "Old Folks at home" was not less enjoyable than others we have heard during the season. The men's voices sounded well in the open air and were carefully trained and altogether deserve much congratulation and praise. We congratulate Band Sergeant Hall on his earnest and sound work which has always been a noticeable feature in his Conductorship of the Band of the 93rd Highlanders whilst in this City.—*Indian Daily News.*

Ninety-third Calendar for May 1903.

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1	F.	Left Table Bay for England, 1814. Est. reduced to 33 Officers, 59 Sergeants, 23 Drummers and Pipers, 40 Corporals and 480 Privates, 1872.
2	S.	Lieut.-Col. Alexander Halkett to 104th Foot, 1810, "B" Company win Tug-of-war Shield, 1901.
3	S.	George Johnston, Lieut.-Col., 1810. Emb. at Balaclava on board *Sphynx* and *Nemours* for expedition to Kertch and Yenikale (cancelled), 1855.
4	M.	
5	Tu.	Battle of Bareilly, 1858. 1 man killed.
6	W.	"Big Sam" (Sergeant Samuel McDonald) d.; 1802; he was 6 ft. 10 in. height, and measured 48 round chest; buried in the Strangers' Cemetery, Guernsey. Arrd. Spithead from West Indies, 1834 (strength 371 N. C. O's and men), Gallipoli to Scutari, 1854. Terrific hailstorm at Nowshera, 1897; hailstones 4½ in. in circumference.
7	Th.	Cherat summer detachment left Nowshera, 1896.
8	F.	Disembarked Ramsgate from West Indies, 1834, to Canterbury. "G" Company win Physical Drill Shield, 1901.
9	S.	
10	S.	Final Cricket Clock Tournament, Nowshera, 1897 (1st day).
11	M.	Final Cricket Clock Tournament, 1897, "B" Company winners.
12	Tu.	Edinburgh to Portsmouth on board *Himalaya*, 1873.
13	W.	"B" and "H" Companies (summer detachment) to Cherat, 1897.
14	Th.	Arrd. Portsmouth from Granton, 1873, to Aldershot. Arrived Spithead from America, 1815; ordered to Cork.
15	F.	Arrived Aldershot, 1873.
16	S.	Re-inforced at Canterbury by Depôt Companies, 1834.
17	S.	Dublin for the Curragh, 1877.
18	M.	Weedon for N. of England by detachments, 1835; Head-quarters, Blackburn.
19	Tu.	Weedon for N. of England, 1835.
20	W.	
21	Th.	
22	F.	Est. augmented to 800 rank and file, 1843. Again embark (ships *Sphynx* and *Stromboli*) for expedition to Gulf of Kertch, 1855. New Colours presented at Dover by H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge, 1857.
23	S.	
24	S.	
25	M.	
26	Tu.	
27	W.	Weedon to N. of England, 1835.
28	Th.	Disembarked, Cork, 1815, to Birr; re-inforced following December, by draft from reduced 2nd Battalion.
29	F.	
30	S.	Maj.-Genl. Sir John Cameron, K.C.B., Colonel to 9th Foot, 1833.
31	S.	Lt.-Genl. Sir Jasper Nicolls, K.C.B., Colonel, 1833.

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What the Parrot is saying.

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[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT he wid strike the 'gan by the midday sun, making a distinct stroke between each pause.

That you should pass your opeenion without opening your mouth.

That he got on his bike and walked away.

That she waited until she had got her feet on.

That he has been out every day last Thursday, since he came to Calcutta.

That he lost a kuppe note.

That the distance between ranks is 60 paces.

That he will raise his cut-off.

That the 9st. 8lb. championship of Pubbi has been settled at last after a hard fight by a very important admi of Tin Battery.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant and appointed Sergeant Drummer.—No. 3849, Lance-Sergeant J. Duff, "F" Company, dated 25th February 1903.

To be Corporals.—No. 2922, Lance-Corporal J. Bertram, "F" Company, dated 25th February 1903; No. 5550, Lance-Corporal F. B. Risdon, "F" Company, dated 10th March 1903; No. 6124, Lance-Corporal R. Silcock, "H" Company, dated 14th March 1903.

PAY OF RANK.

To be paid Lance-Sergeant.—No. 5534, Corporal W. Menzies, "F" Company, dated 25th February 1903.

To be paid Lance-Corporals.—No. 9026, Lance-Corporal J. Muchan, "A" Company, dated 25th February 1903; No. 6053, Lance-Corporal G. Kay, "F" Company, dated 6th March 1903; No. 6124, Lance-Corporal J. Fraser, "F" Company, dated 14th March 1903; No. 6535, Lance-Corporal T. R. Cridland, "F" Company, dated 11th March 1903; No. 5079, Lance-Corporal D. Macgillivray, "G" Company, dated 20th March 1903.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Clerk in the Office of the D. A. Q. M. G. for mobilisation.—No. 3531, Sergeant F. C. Marks, "C" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—

No.	7422,	Pte. R. Swan,	"B"	Company,	9-3-03.
"	6213,	" A. Campbell,	"E"	"	13-3-03.
"	7459,	" G. McNair,	"E"	"	13-3-03.
"	7438,	" J. Galbraith,	"D"	"	13-3-03.
"	7950,	" H. Hutchinson,	"D"	"	13-3-03.
"	5685,	" F. Morrison,	"A"	"	14-3-03.
"	4183,	" J. Burke,	"H"	"	14-3-03.
"	7122,	" J. Bell,	"H"	"	14-3-03.
"	4668,	" W. Forbes,	"E"	"	18-3-03.
"	8182,	" H. Griffiths,	"G"	"	23-3-03.
"	7226,	" J. Downs,	"C"	"	24-3-03.
"	4761,	" A. Bowe,	"H"	"	27-3-03.
"	5031,	" R. Mackay,	"A"	"	28-3-03.

To be Piper.—No. 4207, Private R. Nicholson, "G" Company.

To be Drummer.—No. 4876, Private W. Malcolm, "E" Company.

To be Bandsman.—No. 7617, Private M. Christie, "B" Company.

To be Regimental Signaller.—No. 5543, Private W. Hogg, "C" Company.

To be Acting Drummers.—

No. 6834, Private J. Faichney, "B" Company.
" 7811, " J. Scott, "C" "
" 6879, " D. Clark, "G" "

To be Acting Piper.—No. 6028, Private J. Rankin, "E" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 2d. per diem :—

"B" Company.

No. 4595, Pte. J. Dolan. | No. 4751, Pte. J. Atherton.

"C" Company.

No. 6844, Private R. Wright.

"E" Company.

No. 5964, Pte. R. Monteith. | No. 6089, Pte. R. Deans.

"G" Company.

No. 6070, Dr. J. Seton. | No. 6074, Pte. W. Anderson.

"H" Company.

No. 6057, Pte. P. Wilkie. | No. 6078, Pte. T. Peacock.

At 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 7991, Bandsman, P. Wilmore.

"B" Company.

No 6543, Pte. J. Murray. | No. 7381, Pte. R. McFarlane.

"C" Company.

No. 7134, Lce.-Cpl. J. Moir. | No. 6987, Pte. J. McCabe.

"E" Company.

No. 6956, Pte. A. Hamilton. | No. 6134, Pte. J. Ferns.
No. 7393, Private P. Fraser.

"F" Company.

No. 7547, Private D. MacIntosh.

"G" Company.

No. 7488, Pte. D. Roy. | No. 6247, Pte. J. Stewart.
No. 7744, Private H. Alexander.

"H" Company.

No. 7977, Private A. Blackley.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted 2nd Class Certificates of Education, dated Fort William, 5th March 1903 :—

No.	6391, Lce.-Corpl.	W. Melville,	"E"	Company.
"	4682, "	A. Gray,	"H"	"
"	4531, "	C. Armour,	"A"	"
"	7987, Private	R. Paxton,	"B"	"

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Granted 3rd Class Certificates of Education, dated Fort William, 5th March 1903.—

No. 7543, Lce.-Corpl. N. Halliday, "B" Company.
„ 5118, „ D. Maclean, "E" „
„ 8062, Private T. Macneil, "A" „
„ 8137, „ R. English, "B" „
„ 8355, „ J. Jack, "D" „

Passed a professional examination for promotion at Fort William on 9th March 1903.—

For promotion to Sergeant.

No. 6325, Lce.-Sgt. K. Fraser, "D" Company.
„ 5534, „ W. Menzies, "F" „
„ 6538, Corporal T. Memmott, "E" „
„ 4058, „ J. Buchanan, "F" „
„ 6202, „ J. McInnes, "E" „

For promotion to Corporal.

No. 5291, Corporal R. Tawse, "D" Company.
„ 5408, „ A. Ewing, "E" „
„ 5550, Lce.-Cpl. F. Risdon, "F" „
„ 5865, „ F. Johnstone, "F" „
„ 5390, „ A. Stewart, "B" „
„ 6124, „ R. Silcock, "H" „

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' Service.—

No. 4644, Sergeant D. Ritchie, "G" Company.
„ 4628, „ G. Ballantine, "G" „
„ 3672, Private J. Gray, "A" „

To complete twelve years' Service with the colours.—

No. 5842, Sergeant R. Glass, "A" Company.
„ 5853, „ J. Brown, Punjab-Bengal.
Unattached List.

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 5927, Sergeant D. Stobie, "E" to "A" Coy.
„ 2543, Corporal D. Chisholm, "A" „ "D" „
„ 6124, „ R. Silcock, "H" „ "G" „
„ 5550, „ F Risdon, "F" „ "B" „
„ 4876, Drummer W. Malcolm, "E" „ "F" „
„ 7617, Bandsman M. Christie, "B" „ "D" „

GRANTED FURLOUGHS TO ENGLAND.

Embarked H. T. "Sicilia," 24th February.—

No. 2981, Sergeant W. Scott, "D" Company.
„ 7564, Pion.-Sergt. J. Snowdon, "G" „
„ 4293, Corporal G. Newall, "D" „

Embarked H. T. "Syria," 28th February.—

No. 3344, Sergeant A. Laurie, "D" Company.

TAKEN ON STRENGTH.

Boy Edwin Muir Kirk, enlisted on 13th March and posted to "F" Company; Boy Edwin Mardell Lees, enlisted on 17th March and posted to "C" Company.

Discharged by purchase on payment of £18-0-0, *18th March* 1903.—

No. 7163, Corporal A. E. Barker, "G" Company.
„ 8229, Private A. Robertson, "A" „

DISCHARGED.

Recruit Edward McDermott, "G" Company.

Embarked for England, H. T. "Syria," 28th February 1903.—

No. 2299, Sergeant-Piper A. Ferguson, "G" Company.
„ 4773, Sergeant A. Wilson, "B" „
„ 5081, Corporal R. Kelly, "C" „
„ 3839, Private W. Campbell, "B" „
„ 3405, „ F. Hanlon, "D" „
„ 3864, „ A. Johnson, "B" „
„ 3930, „ W. McMaster, "A" „
„ 4019, „ T. Birkenshaw, "C" „
„ 7891, „ W. Smith, "A" „
„ 4344, „ J. Burns, "D" „
„ 3506, „ R. Duncan, "H" „
„ 3538, „ J. Farquharson, "C" „
„ 3899, „ E. McCulloch, "D" „
„ 6133, „ J. Roberts, "G" „

Embarked H. T. "Plassey" for England on 19th February 1903.—

No. 4198, Private J. Ricketts, "C" Company.
Wife and two children.

STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

Embarked for England, H. T. "Silicia," 24th February 1903, *Invalids.*—

No. 3865, Corpl. T. Campbell, "F" Company.
„ 6529, Pte. W. Dunlop, "E" „
„ 5814, „ J. Gray, "E" „
„ 6626, „ J. Haig, "E" „
„ 6570, „ J. Mossman, "D" „
„ 7292, „ J. McDonald, "F" „
„ 6545, „ J. Ross. "H" „
„ 6146, „ W. Taylor, "B" „
„ 6963, „ A. Dunsmore, "E" „
„ 7452, „ T. Douglas, "C" „
„ 7437, „ J. Hudson, "B" „
„ 7043, „ J. McClusky, "H" „
„ 6681, „ J. Maconkie, "F" „
„ 3941, „ J. Leister, "A" „
„ 7389, „ K. Rae, "D" „

—:o:—

Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

BIRTH.

WAINWRIGHT.—At Calcutta, on 2nd March 1903, the wife of No. 5132, Lance-Corporal F. Wainwright, "F" Company, of a son—Frederic James.

DEATHS.

RAE.—At the Station Hospital, Calcutta, on 2nd March 1903, No. 4442, Private W. Rae, "F" Company.

BLACKLOCK.—At the Station Hospital, Calcutta, on 9th March 1903, No. 4358, Corporal A. Blacklock, "B" Company.

McCUE.—At the Station Hospital, Calcutta, on the 27th March 1903, No. 5283, Pte. C. McCue, "E" Company.

MARKS.—At the Station Hospital, Simla, on the 29th April 1903, Sarah, the dearly loved wife of Sergeant F. C. Marks, 93rd Highlanders—"Thy will be done."

—:o:—

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.
2nd Lieut. Hon. A. Bruce	3	0
„ Lord George Dundas	3	0
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2nd Lieut. Praed, S. W. Borderers ..	3	0
„ Jackson, L. N. Lanc. Regt. ...	3	0
„ Macdonald, Unattached List ...	3	0
„ Dudley, „ „ ...	3	0
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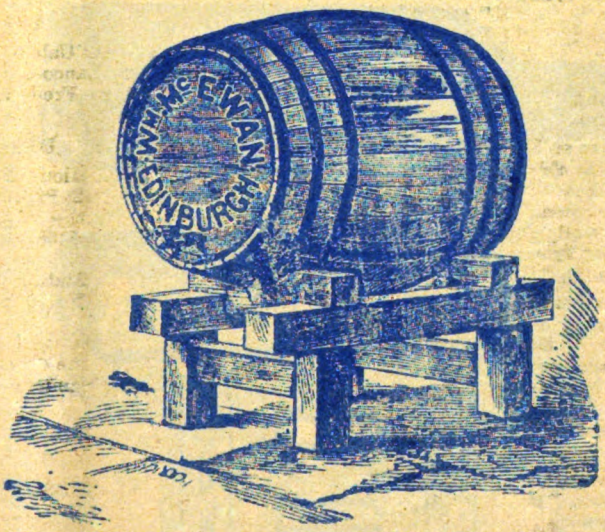

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 2—Vol. IX.] CALCUTTA—JUNE 1903. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

A good many changes have taken place during the month, the result of which has been that we are now left with a very small number of officers. Captain Darroch has been ordered up to Jalapahar to command our detachment at that place, replacing Captain Hyslop, who has gone on railway survey duty in this part of Bengal, preparatory to rejoining headquarters. Captain Elphinston is in Ranikhet, going through a garrison class among our old haunts, having been accompanied by 2nd Lieutenant The Hon. R. Bruce, who is doing the junior part. 2nd Lieutenants R. Falconar-Stewart and W. J. Cuninghame elected to patronize Chakrata for the same purpose. 2nd Lieutenants R. R. Forbes and C. P. James on completion of their course of garrison instruction at Ranikhet have proceeded home on six months' leave.

* * * *

Our congratulations to Lieutenants G. S. Douglas and I. McIvor on appointment to the Indian Army. The former has been posted to the 18th Mussalman Rajputs, at present at Mauritius, but under orders for this station in relief of the 8th Rajputs, and the latter to the 5th Bengal Light Infantry at Silchar, but he has since left them for the 2nd Central India Horse.

* * * *

Of those remaining Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean has taken over pay and command of "F" Company, 2nd Lieutenant Cheape that of "G" Company, and 2nd Lieutenant Jackson, "E" Company.

* * * *

We understand that Major A. F. Mackenzie is on his way out to us, and also Band Master J. Walsh, to whom our congratulations are due on his success in all his examinations and his final appointment to this Battalion.

* * * *

On the occasion of the Calcutta Football League match against the K. O. S. Borderers at Dum-Dum a special train was run there and back for the benefit of men going to see the match. The Railway Company made special concessions, and a large number availed themselves of the convenience of the free trip, the cost being defrayed from the Regimental Funds.

* * * *

The weather during the month has been remarkably dry for Lower Bengal, and in consequence hotter than we experienced at the same time last year. On an average the thermometer registered about 6 degrees higher than the same period last year. The ground became very hard, and the maidan wore a withered and parched appearance quite foreign to all our previous experience of Calcutta.

* * * *

The Football team have maintained their high reputation of last year by an uninterrupted

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JOHN HASLUCK CAMPBELL

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL COMMANDING 93RD HIGHLANDERS

27TH JUNE 1899 TO 26TH JUNE 1903

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 3—Vol. IX.] CALCUTTA—JULY 1903. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

The all-absorbing topic of the month has been the retirement of our gallant Commanding Officer. Having held command for four years, he left us on the 28th of June for home and reverted to the half-pay list. Our hearts go out to him in our loss, and we believe that he on his part was even more affected than was evident. For 26½ years Lieut.-Col. Campbell has served continuously and uninterruptedly in the Regiment. Never in all that time did he miss a duty through sickness. He was a type of Regimental officer that has seldom, if ever, been equalled. There was no one, from the officers down to the last joined recruit, in whom he did not take a personal and very great interest, and on whose behalf he never hesitated to put himself to any amount of personal inconvenience did opportunity offer. There was no one who would not apply to him, before any of our acquaintances, for advice or an opinion or who would not take such advice and act unhesitatingly on it, so great was our confidence in him. On the day that he left us we each and all felt that we had lost a friend in need and a friend in deed, whom we should find it hard to replace. He takes with him our deepest affection and our heartiest wishes for prolonged life and prosperity, coupled with the somewhat selfish hope that, before many years are out, we may again feel the master-hand at the wheel of the affairs of the Regiment in the more indirect though we hope not less limited responsibility entailed by the position of the Officer Commanding the Regimental District.

* * * *

Lieutenant-Colonel Stanley Paterson assumed the command of the Regiment on the 27th of June. On the same date Major A. E. Cavendish was appointed Second-in-Command. We respectfully offer our congratulations to both.

* * * *

Although the official rains, according to the meteorological authorities, begin on the 15th of June, there has been much speculating throughout the month as to when they did begin. Some sceptics say that the monsoon has not broken yet, and indeed it is a hard question to decide. It is certain, however, that we have had rain, and very welcome it was after the oppressiveness of the heat from which we have been suffering. The first fall was on the 15th, but most people put it down to an ordinary "nor'-wester," and since then we only had about six days rain before the end of the month, the intervening days being more steamy than ever. There was a heavy fall of 3·59 inches between 1 A.M. and 8 A.M. on the 26th, which washed Calcutta pretty clean, and on several days there were over six inches of water on the streets and roads after a 'plump.' Whether the monsoon has begun in,

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earnest or not however, at any rate people have begun to return to Calcutta again, as they do when the weather becomes more bearable, and this at any rate is a good omen.

* * * *

As usual for the season of the year our numbers have dwindled during the month. One or two small drafts have proceeded to the misty heights of Jalapahar, whence, by the bye, they do nothing but grumble to us about the weather. Their reports of their attempts at musketry make one wonder whether it is not just as good fun doing "minature target practice" on a steamy morning in the ditch of Fort William. However that may be, our correspondent in the depôt seems to have at last aroused from his lethargy to a sense of duty, and we leave his news to speak for itself.

* * * *

On the departure of Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Campbell the whole battalion turned out about 11 A.M., and escorted the carriage to the exit of the Fort, headed by the pipes and drums. The horses having been taken out, the Colonel's old Company, "A," drew the carriage. In spite of an inopportune heavy fall of rain the send-off was as hearty as it was possible to have been.

* * * *

Major Mackenzie, on arrival from home, assumed pay and command of "G" Company from 2nd Lieut. Cheape.

* * * *

The Football team are to be heartily congratulated on the result of the Calcutta Football League. They have won for us the position of local champions for the year, and that for Calcutta is no small credit to them. Calcutta is the biggest football centre in the East, and nowhere else is it possible to find so many good teams at one's very door, and always on the spot, to give a display of football of a very high order indeed. That the Regimental team has won the Walter Locke Cup, with a score of no less than 47 goals against 6, and a record of 31 points out of a possible 32, which represents 15 matches won and one drawn, is a feat which each of us will remember for some time to come. Comparison is always being drawn in the local papers between our performance and that of the Royal Irish Rifles the year before last, when they won with a total of 45 goals to none scored against them, and 32 points, having won every match. It certainly is a record to be proud of and we are the first to admit it, but our score is almost as good as one could wish, we say *almost*, because there is no doubt that the match in which we drew with Dalhousie is a thing we should be glad to forget. The play of the team on that day was by no means a creditable display for them, and the result was what they deserved. But it was not what the Regiment deserved, after all the trouble taken and consideration shewn and the confidence which we placed in them. All we ask for, however, is an opportunity to test our strength against the Champions of the Calcutta Football League, and from the drawings for the Indian Football Association League it seems that our wish is to be early gratified.

* * * *

We have to offer congratulations to 2nd Lieutenant the Hon. R. Bruce on passing an examination at Jalapahar in subjects (a) and (b) for promotion.

* * * *

A few new bugle calls having been introduced, some days were devoted to teaching them to the Battalion. The following are the changes. 'Reveille' has been abolished and half the 'Rouse' is now sounded instead. A new 'Dress for parade' has been invented, and two new calls, the 'Continue' and the 'Stand fast' have been introduced. Only half of the 'First Post' is now to be sounded, while the last bar of 'Last Post' has been substituted for the old 'Lights Out.' We shall miss the familiar 'Reveille,' the knell of our slumbers, and do not quite see the advantage a 'Dress' of such protracted properties as the new call. The old one fulfilled all necessary requirements. A 'Continue' and a 'Stand fast' are undoubtedly a good addition.

* * * *

Some further details of the disaster to Colonel Plunkett's force at Gumburru in Somaliland on the 11th April will be of mournful interest to our readers, though at the same time we feel a thrill of pride in this account of the end of a true son of the Ninety-Third. The chief of the Rer Ali tribe, who has deserted the Mullah and joined the Abyssinians, says he counted the killed in the fight with Colonel Plunkett's force at Gumburru. He had counted up to 750, when the Mullah appeared on the field and further counting became unsafe The greatest execution was done by the Maxim guns. The Chief states that Captain Johnston-Stewart was wounded in four places and was still living when the square was swept away. He continued to defend himself with a revolver, and shot four of the enemy before he was killed. The Chief affirms that the Mullah was exceedingly angry with the man who shot Captain Johnston-Stewart.

* * * *

The official birthday of His Majesty the King-Emperor was celebrated, with the usual honours, on the 26th of June. The garrison of Calcutta met on the maidan to perform the customary parade. The troops were drawn up in line, facing south. The troop of the 6th Bengal Cavalry were on the right, and our position

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was between them and the 8th Rajputs, the 16th Rajputs (the Lucknow Regiment) holding the left. Brigadier-General H. P. Leach and staff arrived on the ground punctually at 7-30 A.M. and the full Royal Salute, with a salute of 31 guns from the 79th Company, R. G. A., on the ramparts of the Fort, a feu-de-joie and three cheers from the troops on parade, greeted the unfurling of the Royal Standard: this was followed by the March Past, General Leach receiving the salute at the saluting point, round which were grouped the Commanding Officers and the District Staff. The troops then returned to Barracks. Although a very heavy fall of rain in the early morning had left a good deal of standing water on the maidan, which made the parade very uncomfortable, the rain held off for the rest of the day. All Calcutta turned out to witness the parade of the troops. All day the houses in the main thoroughfares displayed their gayest bunting, and the ships in the Hughli had their rigging picked out with a fine display of flags. The Royal Standard was conspicuous floating from the Barracks in Fort William.

* * * *

Colour-Sergeants Gilmour of "C" Company and Smith of "E" Company left us during the month to take up appointments on the Staff as Sergeant-Instructors of the East India Railway Volunteers at Raneegunge, and the Assam-Bengal State Railway Volunteers at Lumding, respectively. We wish them both every success in their new surroundings.

* * * *

Sergeant A. Lockie has been promoted Colour-Sergeant and appointed Pay-Sergeant of "E" Company. This is an exceptionally gratifying piece of information for us to have to record, seeing what sterling service Sergeant Lockie has rendered to the *Thin Red Line* during the last 7 years. As Assistant Manager of the paper till Mr. Stonor left us in 1901, and since then as Manager, he has done yeoman service. How much will never be known by the majority of our readers, and his only reward will be a passing word of congratulation and thanks, and the knowledge that he has done thoroughly and completely what he undertook to do. And this for difficulties which at times seemed insurmountable, and trials which he had to set himself to overcome alone, and without flinching. May he long hold the reins of the *Thin Red Line* coach and continue to guide it safely past all obstacles.

* * * *

The water Polo team lately made three determined though ineffective attempts to wring a victory from the Calcutta team. There are many reasons given by our aquatic critics for the result of these matches, some we are sure are unjust to our opponents, but certainly the form shown by Lance-Corporal Cridland at back, and Drummer Seton and Privates Pollock and Black in the forward line, seemed to leave little room for improvement. The combination too of the whole team, at a game where combination is nine-tenths of the play, is excellent. It is a fine game to watch, and a finer to play, and deserves every encouragement in the Regiment. It is, however, necessarily limited, owing to want of space, to the few at the top of the tree, and as it practically monopolizes the bath for the time being, the majority of the bathers are not so keen to find a game going on often. Still for the sake of sport it is worth playing, and a game that is worth playing is worth practising, and every possible facility should be placed in its way.

* * * *

We publish in this issue, with his special sanction and by kind permission of the photographers, a full page portrait of our late Commanding Officer, from a photograph taken by Messrs. Bourne and Shepherd. We hope in future to publish photographs now and again, as free supplements to the paper, which we trust will be appreciated by our many readers.

——: o :——

ADDRESSED TO "THE RED LIGHT" ON HEARING HIM SAY HE WOULD LIKE TO BECOME "A STAR."

—o—

The "Fierce One" gazed up at the radiant sky,
That glittered and glanced afar:
And he heaved from his bosom a plaintive sigh,
For he pined to become a star.

Must I ever shine here quoth "The Fierce Red Light,"
Choked up by the mists of earth:
Must I ever blink in this inky night,
I am sure this will be my death!

Of what earthly use is my paltry lamp,
While its blink the bright stars flout?
I am smothered and hid in the stinky damp,
While their lustrous beams flash out.

Why was I not set in yon blue concave,
Where the glorious meteors gleam,
To throw down my beams on the ocean wave,
And mirror myself in the stream?

To tread for ever the fields of light,
And float in the ether rare:
To dazzle and 'wilder mortal sight,
As I sparkled thro' cloudless air?

As he mused—his loyal "David" came passing by,
And a ten-rupee note he unfurled:
And the "Fierce One" of course was mighty dry,
And the wild winds tossed and whirled.
"IT'S ONLY A DRUM."

——: o :——

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Colonel J. H. Campbell of Inverardoch.

—o—

It is our sad duty in this issue to bid farewell to our late Commanding Officer, Colonel Campbell. The following is the Order which brought home to us the fact that the time for parting was at hand:—

BATTALION ORDERS BY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. H. CAMPBELL,
Commanding 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

FORT WILLIAM, *26th June* 1903.

1096 *Retirement.* The following extract from Command Order 437 of 1903 is published for information:—

'Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Campbell, 2nd Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, will be placed on half pay on the 27th June 1903, inclusive, on completion of his period of service in Command.'

In the same orders from which this is quoted there was a special order, which was thoroughly characteristic of our late Commanding Officer, both in brevity and in the excellent choice of words exactly suited to the occasion for which he was so remarkable. The order reads:—

"With reference to B. O. 1096. Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Campbell desires to thank the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men for the assistance they have given him during the last four years. He is proud to think that the efficiency of the Battalion has in no way deteriorated during his period of command, and he frankly admits that this satisfactory state of affairs is due to the hearty co-operation of all ranks.

"Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell will ever watch with the deepest interest the movements of the Battalion, and he is convinced that wherever it may be sent, or whatever it may be called on to do, it will always uphold the glorious reputation of the Old 93rd Highlanders."

We wish Colonel Campbell could realize how willing has been any assistance which we may have had the honour of giving him during these four years, or that his own personality has been the stimulant to the heartiest co-operation which it has been the pleasure of all ranks to afford him. If any of us have been particularly assiduous in our duty to the service and to the Regiment, it has been in a great measure due to the knowledge that his fatherly eye has been on us, that all we did was known to him. As a Company Commander he made the troubles of each individual in his Command an object for his personal solicitation and advice. As a Commanding Officer he rose supreme, and carried out the same generous policy. It will be understood by our outside readers that to do this he had to devote his life to the Regiment, that there was no tie of home or affection which came before his devotion to his Battalion. At any hour of the day or night wherever the welfare of his men was at stake there was the C. O. to be found, helping, advising, or ordering as the case might be, and no one ever hesitated, or regretted, being guided by him.

As our acknowledged judge, the justice he meted out to offenders was delivered unflinchingly and impartially, and as readily accepted. One of the happiest episodes of his farewell, as he was heard to say, was that one man in particular whom he had sent to cells more often perhaps than any other, was among the last to seize his hand in the hearty hand-grasp of a friend, unspoken evidence that it was all forgiven.

Among his brother officers affection and respect for him were the only feelings mingled. On his last night with us, after his health and God-speed had been pledged, some of his last words were quoted with singular appropriateness from Sir Arthur Power Palmer's farewell speech to the Indian Army "I would ask the younger of you to remember" he said "that good officers make good regiments." Such words came well from our late Commanding Officer, speaking as he did from the exalted stand-point of his own example.

Colonel Campbell of Inverardoch joined the NINETY THIRD on the 10th of September 1877 in Woolwich, and went with them to Gibraltar. While there he had a very narrow escape from drowning, owing to the boat he was in being capsized in the Bay, but fortunately Lieutenant (now Lieut. Col.) Middleton and Second Lieutenant (now Major) Aitken were successful in rendering effective assistance. They were both decorated with the coveted medal of the Royal Humane Society for their pluck. Lieutenant J. H. Campbell accompanied the Regiment home in 1881, and went with it to Aldershot, Windsor, Glasgow, Curragh and finally back at Aldershot, before embarking in 1891 for India. While at Windsor he resigned the appointment of Instructor of Musketry in order to join the Army in Egypt under Sir Garnet Wolseley in 1882 as a volunteer, but unfortunately was not in time to be present at the active operations. He was promoted Captain on the 8th October 1884. Becoming Major on the 27th of June 1893 he was with us in Mian Meer Nowshera, and Bareilly. He went through the Campaign on the North-West Frontier of India under Sir William Lockhart in 1897-1898 with the Regiment in the Tochi Field Force, receiving the medal with clasp, and became Lieutenant Colonel, assuming command of the Battalion in Chaubattia on the 27th June 1899, from the late Lieutenant Colonel Goff who went to the NINETY-FIRST, bringing

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us down from those North-West to these Lower Provinces of Bengal.

Our late Commanding Officer was one of a class by no means too common nowadays *i.e.*, thoroughly a Regimental Officer. He served continuously, without a check, for upwards of 27 years in the 93rd, and during the whole of that period he never spent a day on the sick list.

It may be said of him that he was a typical Scotchman. It has often been remarked that a Scotchman is peculiarly devoid of humour, but this fallacy was completely upset by our late C. O's individuality, gifted as he was, with a keen sense of it. His spare active frame was capable of great physical endurance. Many years ago when the Battalion was at Aldershot in the eighties, there was a late night in the mess, and Captain Campbell, as he then was, announced his intention of starting at an early hour the following morning and walking to London. This he did, covering a distance of 30 miles and arriving at Hyde Park Corner full of go.

We are so convinced of his affection for the Regiment that it is probable had he been offered a higher command he would have refused it, on the ground that he wished to finish his term with the Regiment first. A more generous or kind-hearted man it would be hard to find. We feel sure that his popularity in all the stations we have served in has done much to raise the prestige of the Regiment. He was warmly fêted by his many friends in Calcutta, and during his last week was entertained at a round of farewell gatherings by the well-known hospitality of Calcutta society.

He sailed for England on the 4th of July, having spent his last few days in the country on a visit to Poona, our future station, to enable him to write us some useful notes and information about that place.

Colonel Campbell intends to settle in the meantime at Inverardoch, his property in Stirlingshire, but we all hope some day to see him in command of the Regimental District. For the present the *Thin Red Line* should be proud to be able to echo our best wishes for every success in his future life, and a hearty 'God bless him.'

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Sergeants' Mess News.

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FAREWELL CONCERT TO COLONEL CAMPBELL.

On Wednesday, 24th June, the members of the Mess held a Smoking Concert, opportunity being taken to bid farewell to Colonel Campbell.

The Mess was *en fete* by 9 P.M., and by 9-45 were joined by the resident officers.

In a neat speech Sergeant-Major Ditcham asked the members to drink to the health of our Guest. He referred to the long connection Colonel Campbell had with the Regiment, but owing to the exigencies of the service, unfortunately that in a practical sense was to be severed, but he felt sure that in heart the bonds were held fast He was not only echoing the sentiments of the N. C. O.'s, but every individual in the Regiment at the loss it was to sustain in parting with so estimable a chief. On rising to drink the toast with full Highland honours, cheer after cheer was given, and if heartiness goes for anything, it showed the feeling in the hearts of each individual there.

In reply, Colonel Campbell, who seemed very much moved, thanked the members for the hearty manner in which they had responded to the toast, assuring them that although he would now cease to take any active part in the working of the Battalion, he would always have its best interests uppermost in his heart.

An enjoyable evening was thereafter spent in song, contributed loyally by the members and visitors present, which was brought to a close in the "Sma' hoors" by the Company singing Auld Lang Syne.

On Saturday morning Colonel Campbell attended the mess and shook hands with the members before leaving for Bombay.

Before retiring the Colonel presented the Mess with a most artistic Cigar Box which is prized very much by the members. On the lid is the inscription on a silver plate.

Presented to the
SERGEANTS' MESS, 93RD HIGHLANDERS,
BY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. H. CAMPBELL.
1899—1903.

PRO REGE.

——: o :——

CAPT. CARBINE, of the 119th V.B. Hants Regt., recently received the following invitation:—

"Mrs. Johns requests the pleasure of Capt. Carbine's company at a soiree, on Friday next, at 7,"

and sent a reply as follows:—

"Capt. Carbine presents his compliments to Mrs. Johns, and regrets that thirteen privates and two sergeants will be on duty and one corporal is on the sick list, but the rest of Capt. Carbine's company will have much pleasure in attending Mrs. Johns' soiree on Friday."

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Home and Depot Notes.

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The Ninety-First arrived in Southampton Water on 29th May from the Cape, and proceeded the same evening to Longmoor Camp near Aldershot, where they are now located. By a stroke of luck the transport (S. S. "Syria") got into dock in time to disembark the battalion during the regulation hours. A few hours later might have caused them to spend Bank Holiday anchored off Netley.

The hut barracks at Longmoor had been taken over and prepared for their occupation by advance parties of the details from Montrose, so that on their arrival they found a good meal awaiting them, and everything in readiness. The battalion arrived home some 700 strong, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel A. Wilson, C.B. About 600 men proceeded on furlough three or four days after the arrival home.

* * * *

Congratulations to Lieutenant-Colonel Urmston on his marriage. The following notice is taken from a Scottish paper :—

URMSTON—BURN-MURDOCH.—At Florence, on June 6th, 1903, by the Rev. Herbert Alexander Venables, B.A., Major and Brevet Lieut.-Colonel EDWARD BRABAZON URMSTON, C.B., Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, eldest son of the late Captain William Brabazon Urmston, R.N., Knight of the Legion of Honour, &c., and of Mrs. Urmston, of Glenmorven, Argyllshire, to CHRISTINA BEATRICE, eldest daughter of the late Rev. ALEXANDER H. BURN-MURDOCH, M.A., of Neuck, Stirlingshire, and niece of Lieut.-General Sir James Clerk Rattray, K.C.B., of Craighall Rattray, Blairgowrie, Perthshire.

* * * *

A marriage has been arranged and will shortly take place between Captain H. Baker-Carr, and Mary Elizabeth (May), only daughter of the late N. H. Collis, of Millbrook, county Tipperary, Ireland.

* * * *

Lieutenant Macdonald, from the Supernumerary List, has been posted to the 1st Battalion.

* * * *

Major A. Aytoun, D.S.O., has been appointed Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Scottish District during the camping season, and Commandant at Stobs Camp.

* * * *

The 1st Volunteer Battalion will go into camp this season at Sailes, near Irvine, at which place most of the West County Volunteer Corps are being trained this year.

* * * *

Major Mackenzie has been selected a member of the Royal Archers, the King's Body Guard of Scotland.

We understand that he was to have been on duty with other Gentlemen of the Body Guard on the occasion of His Majesty's recent visit to Scotland, had he not been ordered to rejoin the Regiment abroad. The uniform is a very picturesque one of Lincoln Green. The head dress a Balmoral with eagle's feathers. Each Gentleman of the Body Guard has as his equipment two Bows and twelve Arrows. As Major Mackenzie has not yet fired his annual course with the Bow, we are unable to congratulate him in this issue on his undoubted skill with that arm.

* * * *

Colonel Hunt has proceeded on a tour of inspection of the head-quarters of the various companies of the Argyllshire Volunteers, accompanied by the adjutant of the battalion, Captain G. W. Muir. He started at the south of the county, when he visited the head-quarters of the Campbeltown detachment.

* * * *

The following account of the inspection of the Inveraray Company is from the "Oban Times" :—

THE VOLUNTEERS.—A special muster of the several sections included in the Inveraray Rifle Volunteer Company (A) was held on Friday evening at Inveraray, Colonel Hunt commanding the 91st Regimental District, having intimated his intention to inspect the company on that day. The Furnace and Dalmally detachments, having duly arrived, were formed up with the Inveraray men; and the company, by invitation of his Grace the Duke of Argyll, honorary colonel of the Regiment, marched up to the castle, where the inspecting officers, on his appearing accompanied by the Duke and Lieutenant Muir, the adjutant, was received with the general salute. The arms and accoutrements were then carefully examined, and the company was afterwards put through a number of drill movements by Captain Wright. At the close, Colonel Hunt expressed himself as much pleased with the appearance they had made, and being the first opportunity he had of seeing the Inveraray company on parade, he hoped to find them fully maintaining their efficiency on future occasions. His Grace also expressed the gratification he felt at meeting the Inveraray Volunteers, and assured them of his best wishes for their welfare and success. He had every confidence that they would continue to hold well together, being the only branch of the service in the district, and that under Captain Wright they would keep up the honourable record they had hitherto borne. The company then marched back to the armoury and was dismissed. Colonel Hunt, Lieutenant Muir, and Captain Wright dined with his Grace.

* * * *

Sir A. Hunter and Boy Soldiers.—The recently-instituted Cadet Corps, composed of boys from Dollar Institution, and attached to 7th Volunteer Battalion was inspected recently by General Sir Archibald Hunter in the grounds of Dollar Academy. There was a large and fashionable audience.

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A Reminiscence of the Mutiny Days.

—o—

By Mr. W. Forbes-Mitchell.

The receipt of the May issue of the *Thin Red Line* calls to my remembrance my faults and negligences, in that I have not given the Editor any assistance for the past three months. So here goes. In the issue for February, I see the Parrot records :—

"That he walked in, in a gharry, frae Barrackpore." That feat of the Parrot brings to my recollection the case of Sergeant "Will" Sinclair, who, in 1857, refused to march in a palkee from Calcutta to Dum-Dum, and as the story may amuse some of the present generation of the 93rd, if you consider it worth the cost of printer's ink, you are welcome to it.

Sergeant William Sinclair, usually called "Will" Sinclair, was famous in the Regiment 50 years ago. In stature he stood about 6 feet 2 inches and was built in proportion, with a leg that required fully 18 inches of garter to go round it. "Will" was a native of Kirkcaldy in Fife, and was a Blacksmith by trade, and a well-trained Farrier and horse-shoer, and was selected by Sir Colin Campbell to take charge of the horses of the Brigade Staff, when Sir Colin assumed command of the Highland Brigade in Varna in 1854, which appointment "Will" held throughout the Crimean Campaign.

Although originally a Grenadier, "Will" on promotion was posted to No. 2, or "Daddy Cornwall's" Company.

I now come to 1857, and the arrival of the "Bellisle" in Calcutta. "Will" was required to go to Dum-Dum to again take charge of the horses of Head-quarter's Staff, and to accompany them on a river steamer, taking small arms and ammunition from Dum-Dum to Allahabad. Captain Allison, A.-D.-C. to Sir Colin, came to Prinsep's Ghat with a palkee and six bearers to carry "Will" and his belongings from Calcutta to Dum-Dum. I may explain that palkees were the only means of locomotion in Calcutta in 1857. The ticca garry, as an institution, had not then cropped up. However, Captain Allison came on board the "Bellisle" and gave "Will" his letters and his instructions about the horses which he was to take charge of and accompany from Dum-Dum to Allahabad, and "Will" with all his belongings accompanied Captain Allison ashore. But when the palkee and the six bearers were pointed out to him as the mode of conveyance, "Will" looked at the miserable looking thin-legged palkee bearers, and then surveying his own brawny legs he said to Captain Allison, "Na, Na. Sir, it shall never be told to ma auld Mither in Kirkcaldy that her "Will" allowed himself to be carried from Calcutta to Dum-Dum by four such spindle shanked creatures as those; na na Sir, I'll mairch it." It was with the greatest difficulty that Captain Allison was able to induce him to let the palkee carry his knapsack and accoutrements, and "Will" marched alongside on foot. This was the first act of Will Sinclair's Indian career.

We next meet "Will" in Allahabad about the 20th October, where he had arrived in due course with his charge.

By that time the railway from Allahabad had been pushed on for about 50 miles in the direction of Cawnpore, but no stations were built, and Colonel Ewart was pushing on to Cawnpore with a detachment of about 300 men, and "Will" Sinclair was to accompany the detachment with his horses. But there were no horse boxes, and a couple of open trucks were placed at "Will's" disposal, on which he had to erect temporary horse boxes with bamboos. Whilst other trucks were being loaded with telegraph wire and poles for a field telegraph from Cawnpore to Lucknow, poking about the railway trucks was an elderly gentleman dressed in a well worn tweed suit, and a slouched hat, with his pants tucked into the tops of his boots, very much like the pewtoes of one of the Boer farmers, and amongst other matters this gentleman appeared to be taking particular stock of "Will" Sinclair's horse boxes. "Will" approached the intruder, and in rather an abrupt manner requested him to clear out because he must get his charge of horses on board the train. The old chap turned round on "Will," saying, "Who the devil are you to order me to clear off," "Will" replied, "I'm Sergeant William Sinclair of the 93rd, in charge of the horses of the Head-quarter's Staff, and my instructions are that I must accompany this detachment to have the chargers in Cawnpore by the 30th instant, and it is time they were on board. So clear out; who the devil may you be?" The elderly gentleman replied, "O, you wish to know who I am, do you? Would you be surprised to learn that I'm Brigadier-General Lord Mark Kerr, commanding this Station?" "Will" at once came to attention and saluted, at the same time surveying Lord Mark Kerr, from hat to boots and back again, saying "I beg your pardon Sir, I did not know you, and if you had not told me who you are, I never would have guessed it." Lord Mark burst out into a loud laugh, and replied, "I believe you're right Sergeant, get your horses on board, I see you know your duty and can do it, the train will start in half an hour" and he walked away, leaving "Will" muttering to himself. "Rum Old Chap, I have heard of you from some of the old 13th, Lord Mark's Regiment, and now I have seen you."

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"Will" Sinclair duly reached Cawnpore and there this charge ended, every man who could carry a rifle being required in the ranks, and "Will" joined his Company, and I did not see him again till the day of the forced march retreating from Lucknow to relieve Cawnpore from the grasp of the Gwalior contingent, when during a short halt, about mid-way between Bunny Bridge and Cawnpore, I saw "Will" in a dooly, he having been severely wounded through the thigh on the 16th November. When I expressed my surprise and sorrow to see him like that. "Will" said to me, "O Mitchell, I think this is a judgment on me for having despised those spindle-shanked palkee bearers in Calcutta. Here am I on the broad of my back, and these poor spindle-shanked creatures have carried me, and I am at least 15 stone, all the way from Alumbagh, and kept up with the column and brought me water to drink every time we have halted. It's just a judgment on me for my pride in my brawny legs. All the march I have been thinking about the school book fable of the stag who saw his likeness in the pool and despised his thin shanks and admired his noble antlers. But when the hounds came, his thin legs would have carried him to a place of safety, but his noble pair of antlers caught in the thicket and held him till the hounds killed him. I'll never despise the thin shanks of Indian dooly-bearers again."

Here endeth the story of Sergeant "Will" Sinclair of the láng town of Kirkcaldy.

——: o :——

Many years ago, in a fort, the wicked rats and mice ate the soldiers' food and clothes. The Colonel was very angry with the wicked rats and mice, and he sent to the War Office for leave to keep a cat, and before he died his request was granted. The cat was petted by the men, and the good War Office allowed 2d. a day for milk and meat. Was it not a good War Office?

Very soon the wicked rats and mice were all killed by the cat, and the Colonel was not angry any more. The cat was a she cat, and one day it had four kittens, and the Colonel sent to the War Office for money to pay for more milk and meat for it and the four pretty little kittens.

After a few days the War Office sent back a letter which said: "Re proposed increase of allowance for cat as originally supplied, and kittens not as originally supplied. The cat in question was on the strength of the regiment, but not married on the strength of the regiment, and, consequently, the kittens, not originally supplied, are supplementary to the establishment, and cannot be provided for out of the Army Estimates. Furthermore, as it is evident that the cat must have been rendered ineffective for a certain period—re kittens—will you, therefore, please furnish a return giving the exact number of days during which the cat was off duty—re kittens—so that the necessary deduction can be made from its pay.?"

Moral.

In the Army never do more than you are paid to do.—*Military Mail.*

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Athletics.

—o—

CALCUTTA FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

The following is a table showing the result of the matches played by the Regimental team in this League :—

Versus.	Result.	Goals. For.	Goals. Against.	Points.
Y. M. C. A.	Won	2	0	2
64th Battery, R. F. A. ...	„	3	0	2
Rangers	„	5	0	2
Calcutta F. C.	„	2	1	2
K. O. S. Bs.	„	3	1	2
Dalhousie	Draw	1	1	1
Burn & Co.	Won	4	0	2
Y. M. C. A.	„	1	0	2
64th Battery, R. F. A. ...	„	5	0	2
Rangers	„	3	0	2
Calcutta F. C.	„	3	1	2
Howrah	„	3	1	2
K. O. S. Bs.	„	3	0	2
Dalhousie	„	2	1	2
Burn & Co.	„	7	0	2
Howrah	Scratched			2
Totals ...		47	6	31

A detail of the matches played during the month is given below :—

Dalhousie—Played on 2nd June. Perhaps this was the necessary reaction after the Calcutta and K. O. S. B's. matches, at any rate our team were off it utterly. The game was uninteresting and requires little description. Play was of a give and take nature in the first half, nothing being scored. At the beginning of the second half we got a penalty kick which resulted in nothing. Dalhousie then broke away, and after some scrimmaging in front of our goal, put the ball through. Our team began to play up after this and soon equalized. Repeated efforts to win the match were stopped by the Dalhousie goal-keeper and the match resulted in a draw.

Team—Goal, Coventry; *Backs*, Wallace and Silcock; *Half Backs*. McLean McGowan and Mowatt; *Forwards*, Pollock, Lockhart, Quin, Montgomery and Hogg.

Burn & Co.—Played on 6th June and resulted in an easy victory for us by four goals to nothing. The match was played on Burn & Co 's ground which is of the minimum dimensions. Our team took some time getting used to this and only scored once in the first half, Hogg sending in a very fine shot. In the second half play was very one sided, Quin scoring three times.

Team—As above.

Y. M. C. A.—Return match played on 13th June. This match was rather a surprise as the Y. M. C. A. made a very even game of it.

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There was no scoring during the first half and the Y. M. C. A. once or twice looked dangerous. On changing over, our team showed up better, and Lockhart scored the only goal of the match, a shot by Montgomery being disallowed.

Team—Goal, Coventry; *Backs*, Wallace and Silcock; *Half Backs*, McLean, McGowan and Mowatt; *Forwards*, Pollock, Lockhart, Montgomery, Galbraith and Hogg.

64th Battery R. F. A.—Return match played on 18th June. This was even more one sided than the first match, our team scored twice in the first five minutes, and then took things easy. Three more goals were added in the second half. Near the end the Artillery forced a corner, but nothing came of it.

Team—Goal, Coventry; *Backs*, Wallace and Silcock; *Half Backs*, McLean, McGowan and Mowatt; *Forwards*, Robertson, Lockhart, Quin, Montgomery and Hogg.

Rangers—Return match played on 20th June. This was a slow, uninteresting game, our team attacking most of the time. The shooting however was not up to form. One goal was scored in the first half, and two in the second, one of the latter from a penalty. The Rangers twice looked dangerous, but shot wide.

Team—Goal, Coventry; *Backs*, Wallace and Silcock; *Half Backs*, Mulholland, McLean and Mowatt; *Forwards*, Pollock, Lockhart, Quin, Montgomery and Hogg.

Calcutta—Return match, played 23rd June. Heavy rain fell throughout the afternoon and made the ground very slippery. The game was however very fast. Calcutta were the first to break away. Silcock saved and Hogg took the ball down the touch line. After each goal had been visited in turn, Montgomery managed to defeat the Calcutta goal-keeper. Though both sides had several shots, nothing further was scored in the first half. The Calcutta goal was threatened at the beginning of the second half but nothing resulted. Calcutta then rushed the ball down and, a penalty kick being given them, scored a goal. The triumph of their supporters was however short lived as our forwards rushed the ball from the kick off and scored again before Calcutta knew where they were. Calcutta threatened once more, but the ball was soon transferred to their end where it remained for the rest of the game. Hogg put in a hard shot and scored a third goal, but the Calcutta Goal-keeper kept some good ones out.

Team—Goal, Coventry; *Backs*, Wallace and Silcock; *Half Backs*, McLean, McGowan and Mowatt; *Forwards*, Pollock, Lockhart, Quin, Montgomery and Hogg.

Howrah—Played on 25th June. This match ought to have been played before but Howrah could not raise a team. It resulted in a very one sided game, our team pressing the whole of the first half and scoring three goals. In the second half they got very slack and allowed Howrah to score.

Team—Goal, Coventry; *Backs*, McGowan and Silcock; *Half Backs*, McLean, Auchinvole and Mowatt; *Forwards*, Pollock, Lockhart, Quin, Montgomery and Miller.

K. O. S. B.—Played on 27th June. Our team had slightly the better of the play in the first half but the K. O. S. B's defence was very strong and repeated attempts to score ended in failure. Our back division also played a fine game and gave their forwards no chance. In the second half, after some give and take play, McGowan put in a long dropping shot which their goal-keeper failed to stop. Shortly afterwards Quin scored a second point and, though the K. O. S. B.'s tried hard to reduce the lead, they could not get through. Quin added a third goal, and the game ended in a victory by three goals to nothing.

Team—Goal, Coventry; *Backs*, Wallace and Silcock; *Half Backs*, McLean, McGowan and Mowatt; *Forwards*, Pollock, Lockhart, Quin, Montgomery and Hogg.

Dalhousie—Played on 30th June and resulted in a win by two goals to one. This score gives no idea of the actual state of things, our team were practically bombarding the Dalhousie goal the whole time and gave their goal-keeper a grand opportunity of displaying his skill. Lockhart and Quin secured the goals, both in the first half. Towards the end of the second half, the Dalhousie forwards broke away and after a very fine run scored.

Team—As above.

Burn & Co.—Played on 4th July, and resulted in a win for our team by seven goals to nothing. This match was hopelessly one sided. Six goals being scored in the first half. In the second, our team took things easily and only added one more goal.

Team—As above.

Howrah could not raise a team for a return match and consequently had to scratch.

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"*C*" *Company* vs. *Calcutta* "*B*" *Team.*—Played on the Calcutta ground on the 12th June. The game turned out to be a good match, and resulted finally in a win for the Company team by one goal to *nil*. Hogg, playing in his usual place on the left wing, secured the only point made during the game, from a good pass by Smith, and although the home team strove hard to equalize, Shields in the Company's goal saved some splendid shots. His coolness aroused the admiration of the spectators, and to his goal-keeping was certainly due the result of the match.

"*A*" *Company* vs. *Sova Basar.*—Played on the Sova Bazar ground on the 12th June. The result of this match was the reverse of the one played by "C" Company the same afternoon, and the Fort team retired defeated by one goal to *nil*. At half time nothing had been scored and the game was not an exciting one. After ten minutes play Sova Bazar secured the only point made during the match.

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WATER POLO MATCH.

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A Water Polo Match took place on the 16th June in the Calcutta Swimming Baths against their team. Both teams took to the water sharp on the call of time, Calcutta winning the toss elected to defend the shallow end. At the word of the Referee, Seton, our centre forward, reached the ball first and centred to Wright, at half back, and the game was fairly started. Calcutta securing the ball, it was passed to their right wing, but Cridland was waiting for it, and by a smart pass enabled Seton to score the first goal. The ball being once more taken into play Calcutta got possession and carried it down to dangerous territory, Glaxby carrying it past our backs, when from a tussle their centre half equalized for Calcutta. Give and take play followed till half time, when the whistle stopped the game at one goal all. After a rest the ball was once more put in motion and a good deal of fast play ensued. Our team lost the ball at the beginning, and Calcutta getting away all but scored. Wright arrived however in the nick of time and saved all but a corner. From a good centre Sherman put on another goal for his team. Morrison, who secured the ball at the outset, missed his pass, and the Calcutta forwards getting possession carried it down to our end. Black however was equal to the occasion and smartly cleared a nasty shot, passing up to Seton who was lying well up and secured a second goal for our team, thus equalizing the score. The Regimental team dropped off considerably about this time and Calcutta taking advantage, placed two more goals in quick succession to their credit. Our representatives however seemed to realize all of a sudden what had happened, and after some pretty passing Black secured a third goal. With one goal down, and nearly time, the military team began, though all too late, to try and equalize the match, but found it was just a little more than they could manage. Seton Black and Cridland carried the ball with a rush down to within three yards of the Calcutta goal, but Cridland passing to Seton, the latter was fouled before he could reach it. The only result was the whistle of time from the referee, and the Highlanders had to acknowledge a distinct defeat by four goals to three. The team was *Goal* Lance Corporal Swan, *Backs* Private Black and Lance-Corporal Armour. *Half Back* Wright, *Forwards* Lance-Corporal Cridland, Drummer Seton, and Private Morrison.

(We regret that the other water Polo Matches have not, through an oversight, been reported by our Sporting Correspondents with the Swimming Team. The result, however, of the other two matches played was no more favourable to our team).

How I was befriended by my Aryan brother.

—o—

At Umballa in November 1892 as I was returning to my bungalow after playing polo, the pony I was riding ran away with me and I came to grief near the Sirhind Club. I have no very clear recollection of what happened immediately before the accident. I understood that I was found lying in the ditch by a lady and was eventually taken to hospital. Probably she called upon the police-man to help with my insensible body. I did not recover consciousness until sometime after I reached hospital. After my convalescence the following letter was received by me; the letter was found recently amongst some of my papers at home, but I do not recollect if I complied with his request.

"CAPTAIN A. F. MACKENZIE,
Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Camp Umballa.

RESPECTED SIR,—I most submissively beg to inform your honour that about a fortnight ago, while your honour was on horseback, I was on duty in the neighbourhood of Sirhind Club, during which time your honour suddenly fell down from the pony and became senseless instantly. I hastily in the meantime informed the medical department with the effect by which a dooly was supplied, and your generous person was carried away to hospital in the same condition. I looked after your honour in every way during that time, therefore I beg to solicit your honour's favour to be so kind as to graciously recommend me to Captain Hamond, Police Department, for the maintenance of my poor and large family for that purpose. For which act of favor and generosity I shall ever pray.

I beg to remain,
Your most obedient servant,
Constable of No. 522,
Umballa, 16th Dec. 1892.
A. F. M.

—:o:—

In the north there lives a farmer whose sense of humour failed him on his wedding day. He lived at some distance from his bride-elect, and on the eventful morning he set off for the station in good time, but he met one friend after another, with the result that he missed his train.

Naturally he was very much upset, but bethought himself of the telegraph. This was the message he sent:—

"Don't marry till I come.—WILLIAM."

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Increase of Soldiers' Emoluments.

—o—

The following excracts from Army Order 66 of April 1902 will probably be useful as a reference to many of our readers:—

EDWARD R.I.,—WHEREAS WE deem it expedient to increase the pay and emoluments of soldiers of Our Army; It is our Will and Pleasure that, from the dates specified, the following additions shall be made thereto:—

* * * *

1. On and after 1st April 1904 the following further daily increases of pay shall be granted to all warrant and non-commissioned officers (including paid lance ranks); and to efficient soldiers who have enlisted for more than 3 years with the colors, or have been permitted to extend their service, excluding Maltese or non-European soldiers, but including the Royal Garrison regiments:—

Service Pay.

	d.
Efficient soldiers, Class I.	6
Ditto after 5 years' total service ...	7†
Efficient soldiers, Class II.	4
Ditto after 5 years' total service ...	5†

† *Increase of 1d. for good conduct.*

Class I. shall consist of all warrant and non-commissioned officers (including paid lance ranks); and of men who have complete 2 years' colour service, and who have, in the opinion of the officer commanding their unit, attained all necessary proficiency in the duties of their arm, including, in the case of infantry, such a standard in musketry as may be prescribed by regulation.

Class II. shall consist of other soldiers who are allowed to extend their colour service, or who, having been enlisted for more than 3 years, are not placed in Class I.; provided in either case that they have completed 2 years' colour service. Soldiers enlisted for 3 years with the colours, and who have not extended their service, shall, if retained with the colours on account of war, be granted service pay during such retention.

2. Should a soldier of Class I., in the opinion of his commanding officer, fall below the necessary standard, he shall be relegated to Class II. until he shall regain the required standard of efficiency. Failure to reach the prescribed standard in musketry, in one year, will entail reduction for 12 months.

3. Soldiers guilty of offences, which at present entail the forfeiture of all good-conduct badges, shall forfeit service pay under similar conditions.

Upon a soldier, who is not in possession of a good-conduct badge, incurring a regimental entry, the rate of service pay, under Article 1 of this Warrant, shall be reduced by 1*d.*; provided that the rates shall not be reduced below 5*d.* and 3*d.* in Class I. and II. respectively.

Soldiers may be restored to their previous rating, when, in the opinion of the commanding officer, their conduct merits such a course.

4. Soldiers enlisted as boys will be eligible for service pay on reaching the age of 20, provided that they fulfil the prescribed conditions.

5. Previous service in any of the following categories shall, if acknowledged upon enlistment or re-enlistment, count towards the periods of service qualifying for service pay; provided that at least 6 months' service has been given on the current attestation, and that the soldier fulfils the necessary qualifications:—

(*a*). In the Army (including service in the Imperial Yeomanry and Volunteer service companies, in the case of men who have been on active service).

(*b*). In Colonial corps in the case of men who have been on active service.

(*c*). As an embodied militiaman.

6. Until 31st March 1904, good-conduct badges and pay shall be awarded, forfeited, or restored under present conditions. After that date good-conduct badges, without pay, shall be awarded, forfeited, or restored upon the conditions laid down in the Pay Warrant, except that the second badge may be earned by 5 years' service.

7. Upon 1st April 1904 soldiers enlisted before 1st April 1902 will be given the alternative of continuing eligible for good-conduct pay under previous conditions, or of becoming eligible for service pay under the conditions of this Our Warrant. In the latter case soldiers enlisted for 7 years, who are at present liable, if abroad, to be detained for 8 years, must extend their service to 8 years, but no soldier so extending will be liable to an extra period of service, if abroad, except in war. The election once made will be final.

8. In reckoning "service" for the grant of service pay, periods of absence without leave, or imprisonment exceeding 7 days, will be deducted.

9. In the case of warrant officers, or of soldiers qualified for messing allowance, but who have elected to forego it in order to remain under previous conditions of service, the sum of 2*d.* a day will be paid as a special extra allowance.

10. From 1st April 1902 all warrant officers shall be entitled to messing allowance.

Given at our Court at St. James's, this 27th day of March 1902, in the 2nd year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

ST. JOHN BRODRICK.

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Jalapahar Notes.

—o—

The detachment of the Battalion in this Hill Depôt being so strong—upwards of 150 men—it is perhaps not too much to ask of the Editor that he should find space in the columns of the "*Thin Yin*" to voice the news of a stronghold of such great regimental importance as Jalapahar, or "Jalapa-hupa" as some of our wags call the place.

* * * *

Since our arrival here early in March there has, until lately, been very little in the way of sport to record, the novelty of khud-hopping being, perhaps, accountable for such a remarkable state of affairs. However the news from Calcutta of the great successes of our Battalion representatives has stirred our football blood a bit and great things may be expected shortly.

* * * *

The detachment here is distributed amongst two Sections—No. 1 is composed entirely of the West Riding Regiment, No. 2 of Royal Scots Fusiliers and Ninety-third, No. 3 of the K. O. S. B.'s, and No. 4 of the Ninety-third. Sergeant Johnstone is Acting Sergeant-Major, and Sergeant Ogg is Pay-Sergeant of No. 4 Section. The Depôt Commandant is Major Marshall, West Riding Regiment, and Captain Turner of the same Regiment is S. S. O. and Depôt Adjutant.

* * * *

A party of 62 men is now going through a course of musketry, but as the range here is of a very primitive pattern no great or striking success can be expected from the practice, especially as most of the men are firing a trained man's course for the first time.

* * * *

Colonel Campbell, accompanied by Captain and Adjutant Campbell, visited Jalapahar early in June and as the visit was probably the last time the men of the detachment would see the Colonel, the occasion of his departure was seized upon by them to furnish an informal guard of honour at Ghoom Station, the only way in which their sorrow at parting could be adequately expressed. Colonel Campbell was evidently much touched by this tribute of affection and expressed his sorrow in having to say farewell.

* * * *

Sergeant Ogg has become the recipient of a very handsome present from the Veterans who attended the Delhi Durbar, in recognition of his services in ministering to their wants during the period he was the N. C. O. in charge of the Veterans' camp arrangements. The present is a handsome silver keyless lever watch and has the following incription beautifully engraved on the inner case:—"Delhi Durbar, 1903. Presented to Sergeant J. Ogg by the Veterans as a mark of respect and esteem."

* * * *

Two entertainments have been given in the Theatre lately. The first was entirely variety, but a more ambitious line was taken for the second entertainment, the popular farce *Borrowed Plumes* being produced. Lance-Corporal Daly distinguished himself in the character of Dick Mizzle, and was well supported by Private Lincey as Horatio Tattleton, and by Sergeant-Instructor Chapman as Botherby Bibbius. Mrs. Adams sustained the character of Emma in a very able manner and Mrs. Niblett made a good impression as Violet. Captain Darroch has promised to stage his Darjeeling success, *That Dreadful Doctor*, shortly, and Lance-Corporal Daly has another local effort in preparation, so we should have no lack of amusement to complain of.

* * * *

The Depôt Sports which took place on the 7th June showed what the detachment could do in the way of games. Lance-Corporal Kean ran beautifully and took away all the first prizes for running. Other regimental representatives have also done well in the various events, but the undermentioned prize return will speak for itself. Colonel Campbell and Captain Campbell visited the sports ground during the afternoon and appeared highly pleased at the way the Ninety-third representatives won their way through the events. The prizes were of good value, but unfortunately I have not a list of them by me. Below is a list of events and the regimental prize winners:—

EVENTS.

100 *Yards Race.*
1st.—Lance-Corpl. Kean. | 3rd.—Private Moran.

Quarter mile Race.
1st.—Lance-Corpl. Kean.

One mile Race.
3rd.—Private Ramsdale.

Sergeants Race.
1st.—Sergeant Ogg.

Corporals Race.
1st.—Lance-Corpl. Kean.

Throwing Cricket Ball
1st.—Private McLellan. | 2nd.—Private Moran.

Putting the Shot.
1st.—Private McLellan. (29 *feet* 9 *inches*).
2nd.—Lance-Corpl Kean. (29 *feet* 7 *inches*).

Khud Race.
1st.—Private Wardrop. | 2nd.—Private Ferguson.
4th.—Private. Sharp.

High Jump.
1st.—Corporal Markey. | 2nd.—Private Hansen.

Long Jump.
2nd.—Corporal Markey.

Veterans Race.
2nd.—Private Ferguson.

Three-legged Race.
2nd.—Private Caldwell, „ McIntosh.
3rd.—Private Meek.

Tug-o'-War.
2nd.—No. 4 Section.

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Water Gala.

A most successful Water Gala was held on the 17th and 19th June in the Garrison Swimming Bath, a great number of spectators being present on both days. On the first day the heats were disposed of. The second and most important day of the two, opened with the Company Mail Race. Teams, consisting of members of each Company with a haversack slung over their shoulder, had each to swim fifty yards successively, time to count from the start of the first man to the finish of the last; great excitement was manifested throughout and after a very keen struggle "H" and "D" Companys tied for 1st place. Both teams evidently having had enough of the water, they agreed to share the prize. Boy Planner turned out winner of the Boys' Race with Boy McLachlan a good second. Plunging coming next was easily won by Private McLachlan "A" Company with a most excellent plunge of 50ft. 1½ins. The 100 yards Race was very evenly contested until about ten yards from the winning post, at which point Private Pollock "H" Company rose to the occasion and won by about three yards. Very few entered for the Old Soldiers' Race which was eventually won by Corporal Bertram, "F" Company. Throwing the Polo Ball seemed to have great attractions as there were quite a large number of competitors, and in consequence a good deal of time was taken up. The sport was however worth the time, and Private Morrison "F" Company proved superior with a throw of 43ft. 4in. The low beams of the roof somewhat disconcerted many of the competitors. Cock Fighting—a most amusing bit of sport—came next, and after some very laughable bouts "F" Company's team were awarded first place. Graceful Diving, a very close and hard competition to judge, was awarded to Private Wright, "C" Company. The Blind-fold Race caused a great deal of amusement as the swimmers dashed either into each other or the walls of the bath; Private Black, "D" Company won this race.

A Water Polo Match was played next between two teams representing the Right and Left half Battalion respectively, and resulted in a very easy victory for the left half Battalion by 3 goals to nothiug, Drummer Seton securing two and Private Pollock one of the winning goals. A most enjoyable afternoon was concluded with a Duck Hunt. This did not prove so interesting as one would have expected, owing to the spectators obstructing the ducks' flight and causing their easy capture. The lucky winners were Privates Morrision two, Getchell one and Graham one.

Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell and most of the officers were present during the greater part of the afternoon's entertainment. The thanks of all are due to Captain McCandlish for the trouble he took in arranging it and for the able way in which he managed the different items of the programme. Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell also contributed towards the prize money.

The following were the results:—

I.—Company Mail Race.

"D" Company—Sergeant Ritchie, Privates Black, Bradley, Campbell, and Sinclair.

"H" Company—Lance-Sergeant Alder, Privates Peacock, Pollock, Morrison, and Downie.

Time 4 minutes 6 seconds.

II.—Boys Race.

Piper Planner	"H" Company	...	1
Boy McLachlan	"D" „	...	2
Boy Holland	"A" „	...	3

III.—Plunging.

Pte. McLachlan	"A" Company (50ft. 1½in.)	...	1
„ McPhee	"E" „ (38ft. 11in.)	...	2
„ Getchell	"A" „ (37ft. 5in.)	...	3

Old Soldiers' Race.

Corporal Bertram,	"F" Company	...	1
Private Blackwood,	"C" „	...	2

Throwing the Polo Ball.

Private Morrison,	"F" Company	...	1
Lance Corporal Kay,	"F" „	...	2
Private Coventry,	"D" „	...	3

N. C. O's Race—50 yards.

Lance Corporal	Armour, "A" Company	...	1
„	Cridland, "F" „	...	2
„	Kay, "F" Company	...	3

Cock Fighting.

Company Teams of 3 men.

"F" Company—Lance-Corporal Cridland, Privates Morrison and Thomson 1

"D" Company—Privates Bradley, Sinclair and Graham 2

Graceful Diving.

Private Wright	"C" Company	...	1
„ Getchell	"A" „	...	2
„ Graham	"D" „	...	3

Blind-fold Race—50 yards.

Private Black	"D" Company	...	1
„ Dunne	"E" „	...	2
„ Bradley	"D" „	...	3

Water Polo Match.

Left Half Battalion. (Winners) Lance-Corporals Cridland and Kay, Drummer Seton, Privates Pollock and Morrison

Right Half Battalion. Lance-Corporals Armour and Swan, Privates Black, Sinclair and Wright.

Duck Hunt.

1st Heat. Privates Graham "D" Coy. and Getchell "A" „ } Secured a duck apiece.

2nd „ Pte. Morrison secured both ducks.

—:o:—

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Temperance Notes.

—o—

R. A. T. A.

The membership of the above for the quarter ending 30th June 1903, show a slight improvement on last quarter's report and although it is not as much as one would like to see, it still gives some consolation to know that we are on the increase, and it is to be hoped that next quarter will find us still progressing upwards. The following are the figures of the last quarterly returns:

Strength of Battalion	...	1092
„ „ Membership	...	283
Non-members ...	...	809

Since our last notes appeared in the columns of the "*Thin Yin*," a monthly card competition has been organized, a grant out of the Funds being given for prizes. Judging by the great number of entries for the game it seems as if it is very popular already, and we hope it will remain so, in addition to which Major Mackenzie has promised to give us his support in any thing we undertake that will require his help. Any one who can remember Major Mackenzie in the Battalion before will recollect that he took great interest in the A. T. A. and on several occasions presented honours at our meetings, and was always a great friend of the Temperance Society.

Before closing these remarks I think all the members will join in thanking Private Macdonald "C" Company, for the very nice gramophone entertainments he gives us three days a week, and if only a few more would put their heads together and follow his example to get some sort of amusement so as to make the evenings past more pleasantly away, it would soon insure the popularity of the branch.

The following are the honours secured for the quarter ending 30th June 1903:—

SIX MONTHS' STAR.

"C" Company.

Private Haverfield. | Private Johnston.
Private Jenkins.

"G" Company.

Private Creed. | Private Harrison.
„ Calderwood. | „ McMath.
„ Gow. | „ Tait.
Private Stirrutt.

ONE YEAR'S MEDAL.

"D" Company.

Private Leitch. | Private McIntosh.
Private Stewart.

"E" Company.

Private Riggins. | Private Ross.
Private Scrymgeour.

"F" Company.

Private Chalmers.

"G" Company.

Private Gibbons. | Private Brodie.

"H" Company.

Private Dicker.

TWO YEARS' MEDAL.

Piper	... Smith	... "B" Company.
Private	... McCready	... "D" „
„	... Dicker	... "H" „

THREE YEARS' MEDAL.

Private	... McClay	... "D" Company.
„	... Dicker	... "H" „

FOUR YEARS' MEDAL.

Private	... P. Thomson	... "F" Company.
„	... McLaren	... "F" „
„	... Lyons	... "H" „

FIVE YEARS' MEDAL.

Lance Corporal	... McLachlan	... "A" Company.
Private	... Morrison	... "G" „
Sergeant	... Simpson	... "H" „

SIX YEARS' MEDAL.

Bandsman	... Dunlop	... "B" Company.

SEVEN YEARS' MEDAL.

Sergeant	... Cookburn	... "G" Company.
Private	... McMahon	... "C" „

ASSOCIATION MEDAL.

Private	... Rodwell	... "D" Company.

GOLD RING.

Private	... McMahon	... "C" Company.

J. B.

—:o:—

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT the Airmy is no place fur a sodger.

That she wis luking awfu' historic the morn.

That he soled and heeled his socks three times.

That he wid tak skitches o' a' General Officers entering the Fort.

That he wis C. O. to the Orderly's bike.

That he tuk a grey heid oot o' his hair and there wis five come in its place.

That he kent his orders fine, but no' his duty.

That he wid allow no privates to enter the fort in a gharry under the rank of Sergeant.

That it wis "with fixed safety catches, Commence!"

That the M. I. went past like a battery of cavalry.

That I am sending £1, Faither, but no' this time.

That he wid allow no unmarried private soldiers intil the Fort.

—:o:—

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Ninety-third Calendar for August 1903.

—o—

93rd Sutherland Highlanders embodied at Inverness, 1800.

"*Sutherland News*" first issued, Dagshai, 1892.

1 S. Embarked Troopship *Resistance*, Canada for England, 1848.
2 S. Aldershot for Windsor.
3 M.
4 Tu. Colours at present carried by the Battalion presented by Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland in the Queen's Park, Edinburgh, 1871; old colours carried through Mutiny Campaign sent to Dunrobin.
5 W.
6 Th.
7 F. Outbreak of cholera at Jhansi, 1869; 11 deaths.
8 S.
9 S. *Bellisle* arrived Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, 1857; first intimation of outbreak of Indian Mutiny.
10 M. Colonel H. W. Stisted, C.B., Major-General, 1864. F. W. Traill-Burroughs to command, 1864.
11 Tu. Weedon to Portsmouth, 1852. Head-quarters arrived Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, *en route* for China, 1857. Destination altered to India owing to outbreak of Mutiny.
12 W.
13 Th. Sports of Tochi Field Force at Sheranni, 1897; won Tug-of-War and Khud race.
14 F.
15 S. Disembarked Plymouth from Cape of Good Hope, 1814.
16 S.
17 M. Durbar at Sheranni, Waziristan, 1897.
18 Tu.
19 W.
20 Th.
21 F.
22 S.
23 S. First column for Khaza Valley left Sheranni, 1897.
24 M.
25 Tu.
26 W.
27 Th.
28 F. Return of Khaza Column to Sheranni, 1897.
29 S.
30 S. Arrived Leith from Stirling, 1848.
31 M. Disembarked Leith from Canada, 1847. Embarked S. S. *Terrible*, Varna for Crimea, 1854.

—:o:—

The other day two Highlanders entered a restaurant, leaving their order as they passed in. They were hardly seated when the waitress appeared and requested their order. "Did I not tell you?" said Donald. "Bring in tea for coffee, and three for two, with a gill of biscuits and cheese, and don't be all yesterday about it."

—:o:—

Regimental Gazette

PROMOTIONS.

To be Colour-Sergeant.—No. 3306, Sergeant A. Lockie, "G" Company, dated 3rd June 1903.

To be Sergeants.—No. 5180, Lance-Sergeant W. Cockburn, "H" Company, dated 3rd June 1903; No. 6325, Lance-Sergeant K. Fraser, "D" Company, dated 12th June 1903.

To be Corporals.—No. 5618, Lance-Corporal A. McMaster, "D" Company, dated 3rd June 1903; No. 5380, Lance-Corporal G. McLuckie, "H" Company, dated 12th June 1903.

PAY OF RANK.

To be paid Lance-Sergeants.—No. 5667, Lance-Sergeant A. Goddard, "A" Company, dated 27th April 1903; No. 6338, Corporal T. Memmott, "E" Company, dated 3rd June 1903; No. 6145, Lance-Sergeant A. Macdonald, "B" Company, dated 12th June 1903.

To be Paid Lance-Corporals.—No. 5297, Lance-Corporal W. Kirkland, "G" Company, dated 16th May 1903; No. 7507, Lance-Corporal R. Kean, "A" Company, dated 3rd June 1903; No. 7670, Lance-Corporal J. Brown, "A" Company, dated 12th June 1903.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Acting Sergeant-Major of the Assam-Bengal Railway Volunteers.—No. 8221, 1st class Sergeant-Instructor S. Simpson, B. U. L., dated 3rd June 1903.

To be 1st class Sergeant-Instructor of the Assam-Bengal Railway Volunteers.—No. 2519, Colour-Sergeant W. Smith, "E" Company, dated 3rd June 1903.

To be Officiating 1st class Sergeant-Instructor of East Indian Railway Volunteers.—No. 5921, Colour-Sergeant R. G. Gilmour, "C" Company, with effect from 13th June 1903.

To be Pay-Sergeant of "C" Company.—No. 2594, Sergeant W. McMaster, "C" Company, dated 13th June 1903.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 6243, Private J. Murray and No. 7117, Private C. Mulholland, "G" Company, dated 15th June 1903; No. 4151, Private G. Stratford, "E" Company, dated 23rd June 1903.

To be Bandsmen.—No. 8818, Boy G. Grant, "B" Company: No. 9090. Boy, A. Petrie, "G" Company.

To be Drummer.—No. 9190 Boy E. M. Lees, "C" Company.

To be Acting Piper.—Private A. Milton, "D" Company.

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Good Conduct Pay.

At 3d. per diem :—

No. 6174, Private J. Louden.

"G" Company.

No. 4050, Bandsman. Lillywhite.

At 2d. per diem :—

"F" Company.

"G" Company.

No. 6160, Pte. L. McCarthy. | No. 5828, Pte. D. Sinclair.
No. 4743, Private R. Hill.

"H" Company.

No. 5990, Pte. J. Bridges. | No. 6167, Pte. N. Simpson.

At 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 8041, Private W. Weir.

"B" Company.

No. 7996, Private J. McDougall.

"D" Company.

No. 4482, Private J. Mowatt.

"E" Company.

No. 4635, Pte. G. Clarkson. | No. 6460, Pte. J. Riggins.

Certificates.

The undermentioned Non-commissioned Officers have passed the Professional examination for promotion to Sergeant and Corporal respectively :—

For Promotion to Sergeant.

No. 5667,	Lce.-Sergt.	A. Goddard,	"A"	Company.
„ 3548,	Corporal	C. Greenland,	"E"	„
„ 5838,	„	C. Fraser,	"F"	„

For Promotion to Corporal.

No. 3927,	Lce.-Corpl.	W. Walker,	"A"	Company.
„ 5170,	„	W. Jamieson,	"A"	„
„ 5022,	„	J. McLachlan,	"A"	„
„ 4571,	„	J. Hiddles,	"D"	„
„ 6440,	„	E. McElroy,	"E"	„
„ 4339,	„	F. Bracey,	"F"	„
„ 5132,	„	F. Wainwright,	"F"	„
„ 5589,	„	J. McLaren,	"G"	„
„ 5378,	„	C. Campbell,	"H"	„
„ 6295,	„	W. Alder,	"H"	„

Re-engagements.

To complete twenty-one years' Service :—

No. 4151, Lance Corporal G. Stratford, "E" Company.

Company Transfers.

No. 3306,	Colour Sergt.	A. Lockie,	"G"	to "E"	Coy.
„ 5180,	Sergeant	W. Cockburn,	"H"	„ "G"	„
„ 6325,	„	K. Fraser,	"D"	„ "A"	„
„ 8519,	Private	G. Grant,	"B"	„ "F"	„
„ 9060,	„	A. Petrie,	"G"	„ "A"	„
„ 9190,	Drummer	E. M. Lees	"C"	„ "H"	„

Number Allotted.

The Number 9216, has been allotted to Private A. Milton, "D" Company.

Attained 18 Years of Age.

No. 7991, Bandsman P. Wilmore, "A" Company on 20th June 1903.

Granted Messing Allowance.

No. 8388, Private D. Campbell, "B" Company.
„ 8989, „ A. Madden, "F" „

Placed on Supernumerary List.

On completion of three months extra-regimental employment :—No. 3531, Sergeant F. C. Marks, "C" Company (from 12th June 1903).

Taken on Strength.

No. 2571, Bandmaster J. Walsh, Posted to "A" Company. Private James Bowe, from Highland Light Infantry posted to "H" Company.

Struck off Strength.

Transferred to 2nd Bn. K. O. S. Borderers with effect from 1st July 1903.—No. 6622, Private J. Bradley, "D" Company. *Transferred to Punjab-Bengal Un-attached List For employment as a 2nd Class Soldier Mechanic with effect from 13th April* 1902.—No. 6143, Lance-Corporal J. Robinson, "A" Company.

Furloughs.

No. 5927, Sergt. D. W. Stobie, "A" Coy., 8-6-03 to 8-8-03.
„ 7950, Lce.-Cpl. J. Hutchinson "D" „ 8-6-03 „ 8-8-03.
„ 5676, Private D. Wilson, "G" Coy., 4-6-03 to 4-8-03.
„ 7797, „ J. Morrison, "A" „ 15-6-03 „ 14-8-03.

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Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

DEATH.

Gunn—At Yamethin, on 21st June 1903, of pneumonia, No. 2956, Sergeant G. A. Gunn, Unattached List, while officiating as Sergeant-Instructor in the Burma Railway Volunteer Rifles.

—:o:—

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.
Lieutenant G. Akers-Douglas	3	0
„ L. G. Fenzi	3	0
2nd Lieutenant R. Falconar-Stewart ...	3	0
„ L. St. C. Cheape	3	0
Quarter-Master-Sergeant Weller	3	8
Staff-Sergeant Wylie	2	0
Sergeant Macdonald	4	0
„ Ballantyne	3	0

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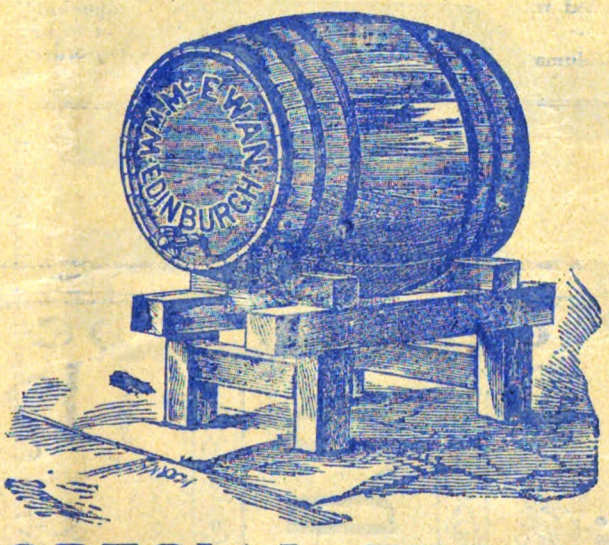

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AUGUST 1903.

XCIII

SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS

The Thin Red Line.

BALAKLAVA

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE ALMA SEVASTOPOL LUCKNOW

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Regimental Football Team.

Winners of the Calcutta Football League—1903

Sergeant Wallace. McLean. Wallace. Coventry. McGowan. Silcock. Mowatt. Pte. Combie.

Pollock. Capt. P. D. McCandlish. Hogg.

Lockhart. Quin. Montgomery.

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XCIII
SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 5—Vol. IX.] CALCUTTA—SEPTEMBER 1903. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

The topic of the moment is Poona and the journey thereto. As already known, the Battalion is to be conveyed by sea, which will no doubt be appreciated by everyone, and will be most beneficial to all, especially to those who have had to stay in the plains throughout the whole hot weather. Naturally enough, speculation has been rife as to the transport in which we are to make our voyage. Until recently it was reported that we were to be so fortunate as to embark on the R. I. M. S. "Hardinge," which has the reputation of being the pick of the present fleet, then there was another rumour in the air that we were to be committed to the whims and fancies of the R. I. M. S. "Clive." Now, however, it is definitely announced that the former report was correct, and that the date of our departure is to be the 15th October. A great feature in connection with our prospective move, upon which we are certainly to be congratulated, is that we are to relieve the Oxford Light Infantry, and consequently occupy the Wanowrie barracks vacated by them, which are reported to be the best in Poona. Our relief, the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment is due to arrive in Bombay from Malta, on the 2nd October, and the R. I. M. S. "Hardinge" is to convey them from Bombay to Calcutta where they are expected to arrive on the 10th and to go under canvas until we vacate the barracks.

* * * *

During the month of August, we were not subjected to any severe test of endurance of the steamy Calcutta climate. In fact with the exception of one or two hot days, there was nothing to complain of, for almost every day we were refreshed by a delightfully cool breeze, which was all the more appreciated on account of the unusually small rainfall during the month. Although it is supposed to be one of the worst months for fever in Calcutta, this year it has been by no means trying. September, which ties with August in this respect, has yet to be experienced, but with the unusually cool month to brace us up, we do not dread its terrors so much as we might.

* * * *

The enlargement of the stop butt on the miniature range in the moat was completed towards the end of the month and consequently the necessary digging fatigue ceased, for which all who had been thus employed were extremely thankful. We hope that succeeding regiments may benefit by the many instructive moments

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which they will presumably spend there.

* * * *

During August Capt. Elphinston returned from a Garrison Class at Ranikhet, and resumed command of "F" Company, thus relieving Lieut. A. J. H. Maclean. Towards the end of July, 2nd Lieut. R. G. Maclaine, having been posted to the Battalion, reported his arrival, and, after remaining at head-quarters for about a fortnight, was sent to do duty at Jalapahar in place of 2nd Lieut. Lord George Dundas, who has been detailed to attend a special garrison class at Ranikhet. Lieut. Thomson is taking advantage of a month's leave at Shillong, shortly after the termination of which he will proceed to Stirling for duty at the Depôt, replacing Lieut. McPherson who has resigned. We shall, however, soon be augmented by the arrivals of Majors Cavandish, C.M.G., and Vallancey D S.O., from South Africa, and 2nd Lieuts. the Hon. R. Bruce, Falconar Stewart, and Cuninghame from the ten days temporary leave granted to them on the termination of the special garrison class.

* * * *

August has seen changes also among the N. C. O.'s and men, for a party of about 30, under the command of 2nd Lieut. Maclaine, were despatched on the 12th for a change to Jalapahar, relieving a similar number who arrived in the Fort on the 13th under the command of 2nd Lieut. McDonald, one of our attached officers, who has returned to Jalapahar on completion of duty.

* * * *

Our congratulations are due to 2nd Lieuts. Cheape and Lord G. H. L. Dundas on their having passed the examination in subjects (a) and (b) for promotion.

* * * *

Sergeant A. McDonald who left the Battalion in Chaubattia in 1898, on appointment as Sergeant-Instructor of Volunteers, is to be congratulated upon being appointed Sergeant-Major of the Cawnpore Volunteer Rifles, an appointment of no small responsibility.

* * * *

We regret to have to record the death of Sergeant Donald Blair, a well-known and highly esteemed member of the Sergeant's Mess. He had been in failing health for some months past, but stuck to his duty, as Garrison Provost Sergeant, until the end of June, when he went to Jalapahar to see if the air of the hills would work a change. Very little improvement took place however, and about the beginning of August his illness took a turn for the worse, and he gradually grew weaker and weaker, and died at the Station Hospital on the 16th August. Sergeant Blair, who was a native of Inverary, enlisted at Glasgow on the 18th March, 1887, and thus had nearly sixteen and a half years service at the time of his death. He was promoted Sergeant in 1891 and was one of the oldest members of the Sergeants Mess. We offer our sincere sympathy to his mother and other relatives on their bereavement. His loss is a matter for sincere regret among us, for "Donal," besides being a great character, was a good friend of the old school, to all who knew him intimately.

* * * *

During the month another party from the Regiment went through a trained course of Mounted Infantry at Barrackpore. News has not reached us as to whether they had to wait ten days for their boots, like the last party we sent, but at any rate it was a pleasant change from the life in Fort William for those who were fortunate enough to be selected.

* * * *

If "Infantry Training, 1902" has done nothing else it has certainly abolished all the old ideas about drill parades, and beyond an occasional morning spent at the handling of arms, the parade is usually a succession of extended movements during which the best is made of the limited area of the Calcutta Maidan for purposes of skirmishing and taking cover.

* * * *

It is interesting to observe that the note of discord, which some unfortunates tried to strike last year when we asserted our right to the Maidan, have been strangely reticent this hot weather. Perhaps they realize that we do not go out especially to see them cutting capers in the saddle—or out of it—but rather with a desire to study our profession as best we can. However that may be, we seem to be on the very best of terms at present, and it is pleasant to be able to think so.

* * * *

The Electric Power House in the Fort has been advancing from the very early stages which were noticeable last month, to much more advanced proportions. The foundations are now complete, and brickwork is beginning. The foundations of the 100 foot chimney are also laid.

* * * *

Our sporting columns are peculiarly devoid of news this month. Not only has football, so far as the Regimental team is concerned, been practically non-existent, but the modesty of our Company teams is so marked that we have not been successful, in spite of an appeal, in obtaining an account of any of the numerous matches, many of them very creditable, in which the Companies have taken place. Let not our outside reader deceive himself; a question to the local teams who have been competing in these Junior Leagues will assure him that it can be for no reason other than modesty that our

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sporting contributors are thus reticent. But all the same, the opinion in the office of the "Thin Yin" is that it is not good for "trade."

* * * *

The Regimental Team have spent the month in busily training for the Bombay Rovers Tournament, for which they will leave early in September. The results of any matches they may play will be awaited with interest by those of us who are not so fortunate as to see them.

* * * *

A Boxing Display was given in the Garrison theatre, under the patronage of General Leach and the Commanding Officer, on the evenings of the 28th and 29th August. Mr. Cowie acted as Judge and Referee, and a most interesting entertainment it proved to be. The feature of the evening was a twenty round contest between Privates McNiff and Gordon, a better than which has not been seen in the Regiment as long as we can remember. Major Mackenzie is certainly to be congratulated on having arranged so good a programme.

* * * *

The local papers are full just now of the acting of Captain and Mrs. Darroch in Darjeeling. As our readers know, Captain Darroch is commanding the detachments in Jalapahar, but he seems able to find time to rehearse and play in pieces, with Mrs. Darroch, to the enjoyment of all who see them. We regret that Darjeeling is not in Calcutta so that we might all have the pleasure of witnessing their performances.

* * * *

An attempt was made late in the month to shoot some more crows, the black plagues of the fort. The number of guns however was small, and the crows were wily enough to make themselves scarce after the first few shots, so that only a poor bag was registered, some 230 of them having been killed. Of course the survivors were more impudent than ever the next morning, merely from bravado.

* * * *

The "Dog and Stick" parades have been inaugurated again, much to the satisfaction and benefit of all concerned. Although the variety of walks about Calcutta is limited, it at any rate affords an opportunity to all of getting out without the extra trouble of dressing in the kilt, and gives the barrack rooms the chance of a good airing.

* * * *

Lieutenant J. B. McPherson, to the regret of all, has resigned his Commission. The news was unexpected out here as he has been at the depôt for the last 18 months, and was, we understood, hoping to get seconded employment in Somaliland. Lieut. McPherson joined the Regiment on 3rd August 1898, and was promoted Lieutenant on the 11th February 1900. We wish him all success in his new career, which we hear is to be on the Stock Exchange.

* * * *

The Reverend D. H. Gillan left us, after an unbroken tour of duty of about 18 months, to take a trip home on three months leave. The Reverend T. Scott, Senior Chaplain to the Church of Scotland in India, is at present officiating for him. We hope the Reverend Mr. Gillan will rejoin us in Poona, although it seems by no means certain.

* * * *

The weekly dances, although they were occasionally interrupted by rain, took place fairly regularly during August. They are losing nothing of their popularity, nearly every one in the Battalion being present every night, and the sound of the band and pipes is very cheery during the evening.

* * * *

We present to our subscribers, with this issue, a photograph of the Regimental Football Team, taken by Messrs. Saché and Co., of Park Street. We hope it will meet with the approval of our readers.

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Work in South Africa.

—o—

My district was situated in N. W. Cape Colony, consisting of about 7000 square miles and a population practically all rebel and Dutch speaking. To bring this promising neighbourhood into law and order again I was given the help of one Subaltern of my own Battalion, (a young gentleman, who a few months before had been studying medicine at his Alma Mater of Auld Reekie) as Staff Officer; a Civilian Clerk (an ex-lawyer's clerk frae Aberdeen) assisted by the Drum Major as Assistant clerk, while the Pipe Major was Chief Jailer and Provost Sergeant.

The telegraph (field) wire ended here, so I had a staff of three G P. O. Post Office Rifles Reserve men, who had their work cut out for them. They were assisted by a signalling post of a Corporal and four men of various Regiments, who occupied Steeik Kop, about 600 feet high, and which was the first transmitting stage by helio, etc to the columns in the field.

From my official diary, I will now give a fair sample of a day's work, for which the remuneration was princely, *viz.* three shillings per diem—minus income tax, rather less than what one pays an ordinary unskilled labourer at home, but then, doubtless the higher powers considered my labours unskilled.

As an officer of the Artillery was leaving for the line early, I took the opportunity of sending a mail by him. Then my usual tour of the village, especially on sanitary matters intent, also inspected progress of wiring in going on by

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'Church' Fort. 10 A.M. brings me to the Court House, where a farmer, resident at a place about 25 miles off, and with a name as long, comes up for various misdemeanours against Martial Law. Being found guilty, he was ordained to pay £60 into the Imperial Treasury and also, in order to give him time to consider his evil ways, six months was allotted to him in the Tronk. Another farmer as to whose loyalty and general goings on much grave suspicion had been attached, was made to find a bail bond in the sum of £200 to be of good behaviour during the rest of the war. The Court being ended, the usual applications for passes to travel, etc. were considered, and only in very special circumstances given to known loyalists.

About mid-day, variation is lent to the scene by convoys arriving; to-day's tally consisting of a donkey convoy under Conductor Swatz, loaded with entrenching tools for garrison and blockhouse line. These to the number of over 500 (picks and shovels) had to be counted over, as the careful officer who despatched them, had sent no voucher. And so the world wagged in South Africa.

Twelve gentlemen of Basutoland arrived, also wandering along the blockhouse line without orders or any idea of where they were going to, except that they wanted rifles and to fight the enemy. After much telegraphing, they were relegated to the Blockhouse Line.

This afternoon were despatched 11 remounts for the 88th Battery, R. F. A which was with Col. Capper's column.

Amongst other little duties, the jack-of-all trades Commandant and Deputy Administrator have to perform were Press Censor, and after a time both Ordnance and Commissariat Officer, and general Municipal work.

Then the Town guard had occasionally to be inspected. They nearly turned Sergt-Major Haidie's hair white in their endeavours to gather into their brains a few simple company movements. Some of them could shoot straight, but they were a fine variety lot from the rotund German Mayor with his specs in the centre, to a long Dutchman, of doubtful loyalty, on the right.

With peace came the worst part of the office work, *viz.* scheduling claims, that is, enquiring into bona fidism of them, and that was a great stumbling block to many a glib-tongued well-scripture-read farmer; also revision of the prices, which these gentry thought to impose on a guileless British Government. Ananias was a saint compared to many of the claimants

Take it in all, it was a great experience, and the only pity was that Martial Law was taken off far too soon, as all that part of the Colony was badly disaffected.

A. H. M.

A Lament from the Banks.

—o—

The following verses have a very curious origin, and although well known to the older generation of the Regiment will probably be new to the younger fry. The verses appeared in the old "Sutherland News" about 10 or 11 years ago, but they will probably bear repetition in the columns of its successor after such a long interval.

About 1892, a War Office Order set the whole service a-talking on the iniquities of that worthy institution. The order was to the effect that immediately after the annual issue of clothing in April, a similar number of articles, whether of one or two years previous issue, were to be returned to the Quarter-Master's Stores, to be subsequently re-sold. There were of course the usual complaints to company officers, but all without avail.

It remained for a private of an Irish Regiment, who composed the following "lament," to shame the authorities into rescinding their extremely mean order. At least, the song had something to do with the cancelling of the order as it was taken up and sung in canteens and music-halls in every garrison town in Great Britain. It also appeared in most of the military periodicals at home and was much talked about. The verses may be sung to the air of Father O'Flynn.

Och! what d'ye want wid me owld fatague throwsers,
Shure the sthripes are all black an' the knees are all wore;
An' the divil a button there's left for the braces,
An' the sate—Holy Moses! the way that it's tore.

Shure it's offin I mendid th' heels iv them britches,
An' many's the button I sowed on th' fork;
Why even th' thread that I used for the stitches,
I bought in th' darlin' ould City of Cork.

Whin I got 'em at fust, shure so nately, I craised 'em,
For I niver had sich a nice fitten' pair,
An' undher the coal-box in paper I placed 'em,
An' got up in the night to make shure they wor there.

Th' fatagues they've been on an' the pickets they've mounted,
Th' Guards they have passed an' th' prades they have done
If all put together they couldn't be counted,
They're the finest ould throwsers that's undher the sun.

To be givin' thim back shure I never expected,
It's little I thought that we ever should part;
An' I swear whin I die, if they have me dissected,
Th' print o' that sate will be found near me heart.

Britannia, me darlin,' I'm proud that I sarve ye,
Shure I love ivery lafe iv yer sweet little rose;
An' I pray wanst a week to the Lord to presarve ye,
But what d'ye want wid me dirty ould clothes?

The Lion now stands where the Army have placed him,
It's a wandher to me that his tail iver wags;
An' those he wanst crushed wid his paw whin they faced him,
Will smile whin they think iv him getherin' rags.

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Home and Depot Notes.

Color-Sergeant Pringle, Band-Sergeant Bartley, and Lance-Corporal McEwan, 1st Battalion, have each been awarded the medal for long service and good conduct.

* * * *

We are pleased to see that Color-Sergeant J. Hutton, late Ninety-Third Highlanders, has been awarded the medal for "Meritorious Service." Colour-Sergeant Hutton enlisted about 1847 or 1848 and so is probably the "Father of the Regiment." Lieutenant-General Burroughs joined the Regiment as an ensign on the 31st March 1848 and so takes precedence of all other officers in point of service with the Ninety-Third. Whether General Burroughs or Color-Sergeant Hutton is entitled to the honour of "Father of the Regiment" we are unable to say as we cannot find out the date of the latter joining the Battalion. Perhaps the veteran himself will oblige ?

En passant Sergeant Ingles' father who died recently was probably the oldest soldier in the Regiment at the time of his death as he enlisted as far back as 1841, and left the Regiment on completion of 21 years service about the time of the cholera outbreak at Peshawar in 1862.

All ranks of the Regiment will join in congratulating Color-Sergeant Hutton on securing his latest decoration, and in wishing him many years of happiness and prosperity to wear it.

* * * *

From a Stirlingshire paper:—

THE death has just taken place, at Penicuik, of Corporal Alexander Corbett, a native of Avoch, near Fortrose, at the age of 80. He joined the 93rd Highlanders, afterwards transferring to the 92nd and 55th Regiments. With the latter regiment he went out to Turkey and the Crimea, serving at Alma, Inkerman, and in the trenches before Sevastapol. He was afterwards warder at Glencorse military prison for about 20 years. He used to relate an interesting conversation which he had with Marshall St. Arnaud.

* * * *

Private J. M'Callum, F. Company, 4th (Volunteer) Battalion Falkirk, who this year lost the King's Prize at Bisley by only one point, made a very plucky fight. He lost the prize by having a miss at the 900 yards range, his shot, having been given too much wind, passing to the left of the target. When M'Callum finished with a score of 310, Davies was then 302, with two shots to go. His ninth round gave him a bull's-eye, so that he required a magpie to tie, or an inner to win. The inner was duly signalled, which made the Welshman the winner. Last year, it will be remembered, Private M'Callum was third for the King's Prize. This Scottish crack shot has carried off at Bisley this year prizes amounting to £130, besides medals and badges. He has been five times in the final for the Queen's and King's Prize, and was selected for the Mackinnon team, the Kolapore team, and the team of the International Scottish Twenty; while he has won the silver cross in the grand aggregate on two previous occasions. Private M'Callum works as a black-smith in Falkirk, is a non-smoker, and practically a teetotaler. His great hobby is volunteering, and before coming to Falkirk he was Armourer-Sergeant in the 1st Volunteer Battalion at Campbeltown.

* * * *

A great deal of misconception exists in the barrack room says a writer in the "Military Mail" respecting the conditions under which a man will be able to purchase his discharge, or obtain an indulgence transfer to the Reserve, if he accepts Service Pay when it comes into force. As regards discharge by purchase, a man will have to pay £25, instead of £18 as at present, and it seems that if a man takes Service Pay he will not be able to get a free discharge for the purpose of supporting his parents, "or for any other such sufficient special cause," as the regulation puts it.

The acceptance of Service Pay will also mean that a soldier who, "at his own request, is allowed to convert his Army service into service with the Reserve before the completion of eight years' Army service, shall pay a sum of £10." For some reason or another almost every Soldier seems to think that after the 1st of April next he has only to plank down £10 to tranfer to the Reserve straight away. This is a great mistake, as the payment referred to is clearly subject to 'King's Regulations, paragraph 1781, which says: "The transfer to the Reserve of soldiers who have not completed their period of Army service is an indulgence to which no soldier has a right." It is, therefore, very evident that only men of five years' service and upwards, with good characters, will be permitted to transfer to the Reserve upon payment of £10. A moment's reflection will show that this must be the case, or else there would be nothing to prevent a youngster with a few months' service from transferring to the Reserve, provided he was prepared to pay £10 for the privilege.

* * * *

Canada appears to be agitated just now over the question of the retention of the kilt by the regiments recruited from Scottish Settlers and the descendants of Scottish Settlers. Controversey, indeed, has always been more or less busy with the kilt, and one of the few things that have been placed beyond dispute is that it is a healthy garb. When the Fraser Highlanders landed in North America in 1757, it was proposed to change the dress on account of the cold winters and hot summers. The officers successfully opposed this, and were ultimately justified by the Highlanders being the healthiest soldiers in the Army. In the campaign in Holland in 1794 some regiments lost as many as three hundred from disease, but the Black Watch, which had some of the hardest

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fighting to do, and had three hundred recruits in its ranks, had only twenty-five casualties, including the killed in battle.

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The Football Team.

—o—

Now that the curtain has been rung down on the Calcutta Football Season it will probably be interesting to everyone in the Battalion to glance over the doings of the team during the past three months. Very little was known at the beginning of the season of the quality of the Regimental players. The two practice games, played between twenty-two candidates for Regimental honours, gave very little insight into the merits of the various players. However, despite this drawback, the selecting committee made no mistake in their selection of the men who were in the football field to uphold the honour of the 93rd during the present season. A word of praise therefore is first of all due to the above Committee for the care they showed in putting the right men into the right place—a verdict backed up in the opinion of the entire Battalion. And now to the team.

What a pleasant surprise it must have been to the selectors to have unearthed such a fine centre-forward as Quinn is. His place has been, for years past, the most difficult one in the team to fill, so the critics ought to be satisfied now. Quinn has plenty of go in him, is not selfish and can shoot for goal from any part of the field. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on that player for his efforts during the season. He joined us this year with a reputation for hard work in the football fields at home, and it is plesent to have to record how well that reputation has been upheld. More one cannot say. Of other new blood who have played this season Silcock and Lockhart stand out prominently. Silcock although he came in at the latter end of last season, was practically an untried man, as all his best friends will admit, after witnessing the fine displays he made this season. "Pubbi" invaribly rose to the occasion whenever his best effort was required, and that says a lot for any man. Lockhart joined us from South Africa, almost unknown, although a few in the know whispered that he was "a good man." Everyone who has watched him this season will agree in saying how well he upheld the opinion expressed of him. He improved too, as the season went on. The least that one can say of Lockhart is that he would make an admirable understudy of "Duffins." He has all Duffin's tricks and styles and one need say no more to be understood, by the older generation at any rate. Coventry, the next on my list requires no introduction to readers. He is too well known in the 93rd to require that and all know how well he has sustained his reputation as a goal-keeper during the present season. Right manfully did he uphold the credit of the regiment in the match against Calcutta in the re-played semi-final of the I. F. A. Shield, where I should say he played *the* game of his life. Certain it is that he that day—in conjunction with the renowned "Nunc" Wallace—saved the Battalion from a disastrous defeat. Wallace needs but little mention. He played consistently throughout the season like the tough old war-horse he is, and deserves the gratitude of the whole Battalion. Amongst the half backs line, I am of opinion that Mowatt took the palm for good hard consistent play throughout the season, though it seems a trifle unjust to single out one where all have done so well. Auchinvol was the selected right half back when the season commenced but I think the powers that be did well in making a change and playing Maclean instead. Auchinvol is certainly a good man, but was not in such good health as Maclean, who looked much more able to stand the wear and tear of a long hard season. Right well did Maclean maintain his inclusion in the team, and it was a great pity that fever laid hold of him towards the close of the season when his services were most urgently required. It is also most pleasing lately to see that he no longer indulges in the nastly trick of jumping which used to be an objectionable feature of his play. His play has also improved greatly since then. And now for the forwards Hogg and Montgomery as a wing certainly stand a good first with any Calcutta combinations, so it is unnecessary to say more as to their qualifications. Hogg unfortunately, was another player whom the fever fiend laid hold of towards the end of the season, and as a natural consequence, injured the dash and go for which he is especially noted. Why Pollock has lost so much of his old cunning and dash is indeed a mystery, for although the veteran of the team and the sole remaining player of the eleven that won the Murree Cup in 1896, he is still quite young and loeks far from having sufferred by his eight years stay in India. At any rate every one must admit that, with the exception of one or two games, he certainly did not come up to his old form. If Robertson (the reserve man) has a little more practice in good company he will run Pollock hard for his place next year. I have purposely reserved, the Captain of the team till now for special mention. As everyone in the Battalion knows, McGowan is one of the most gentlemanly players that ever kicked a ball, and deserves if any one does, his place as leader of the regimental eleven. His generalship brought the team right through the League competition without losing a single game. The draw with Dalhousie was the only blemish on the team's work, but the least said about that unfortunate slip will be soonest mended. To take full points on both occasions off such streng clevens as Calcutta F. C. and K. O. S. B's showed the best management on the part of McGowan and his team, and they are to be congratulated on their successful record in the League Competition.

I am of the opinion that on conclusion of the League had every member of the team refrained from playing night after night with their company teams in the various Junior Cups they would have been able to have done better service in the shield ties There is no doubt that on the evening they played the Royal Irish in the second round visible signs of tiring were noticeable, and more particularly in the two matches played against Calcutta. The Civilian team looked in the pink of condition, while ours, in contrast, looked sickly and worn out—apparently the result of too much work. The result ot course was that we were hardly able to hold our own in the replayed tie, and had to acknowledge to a better team, on the night's play, a defeat by one goal to love. However we live to fight another day and let us sincerely hope we shall have no more football fighting in Calcutta where some most peculiar ideas seemingly exist regarding the rules of the game, especially as to the duties of a referee. A grand feature of our defeat was the good spirit in which it was taken by every one in the Battalion.

The Commanding Officer is sending the team to Bombay to try conclusions in the Rover tournament and I have no doubt that if properly kept in hand, with no repetitions of last year's doings, nothing will prevent the Rover Trophy from finding a resting place with the Regiment. It remains for the members of the team themselves to think of the good old Regiment they belong to, and which has placed so much confidence in their honour and faith as to send them such a long journey, to warrant the trust reposed in them by upholding the prowess of their corps. That they will be equal to the occasion we all trust.

SANS PEUR.

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Concert.

—o—

GIVEN BY THE R. A. T. ASSOCIATION.
Address by the Rev. N. H. Lash.

A report of the Concert which the Royal Army Temperance Association were sporting enough to get up during July, was inadvertently omitted from our columns last month, and as it was certainly one of the successes of the season, an account of it is necessary for record.

The House was crowded, in fact it is doubtful if the Garrison Theatre could hold more people than were squeezed into its somewhat limited confines. Punkahs were fortunately plentiful as the night was a particularly hot one. The stage was tastefully decorated with plants, and lent a cheerful aspect to the room. The Programme showed careful organization and arrangement, and reflects credit on the promoters. It was divided into two parts by an interval of ten minutes, which was taken advantage of by most of the audience to obtain a breath of fresh air outside and to allow the room to cool. Appended is the programme.

PART I.

1.	OVERTURE ...	"Scotland's Pride" ...	*Band.*
2.	SONG ...	"Star O' Rabbie Burns"	*Sergt. Glass.*
3.	SONG ...	"Whistling Mike" ...	*Mr. Bailey.*
4.	... ...	Gramaphone Selections ...	
5.	SONG ...	"The Mighty Deep" ...	*Bd. Mr. Walsh.*
6.	SONG ...	"Honolulu Song" ...	*Mr. Turner.*
7.	CORNET SOLO	"Lost Chord" ...	*Cpl. McLachlan.*
8.	SONG ...	"Sound the Pibroch ...	*Lieut. A. J. H. Maclean.*
9.	RECITATION	"The School Board" ...	*Bomdr. Paris.*
10.	SONG ...	"True to the Last" ...	*Sgt.-Maj. Coyle.*

PART II.

1.	SELECTION ...	.....	*Band.*
2.	SONG ...	"Kentucky" ...	*Mr. Bailey.*
3.	...	Address by the Rev. N. H. Lash.	
4.	SONG ...	Selected... ...	*Lieut. J. Kennedy.*
5.	SONG ...	"My Pretty Jane" ...	*Band.*
6.	... ...	Sword Dance ...	*L/C. Finlayson.*
7.	SONG ...	"Tom Bowling" ...	*Mr. Turner.*
8.	SONG ...	Oh hear the wild wind blow	*Sgt.-Maj. Coyle.*
9.	RECITATION...	Tom Pidger ...	*Bomdr. Paris.*
10.	SONG ...	The Veteran's Song...	*Bd. Mr. Walsh.*
11.	SONG ...	"Goufin" ...	*Rev. D. H. Gillan*

GOD SAVE THE KING.

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The Overture by the Band, conducted in his usual able manner by Band Master Walsh, commenced sharp at 9 p.m. Owing to the limited space in the Theatre the front seats were in rather close proximity to the Orchestra, but certainly the piece "Scotland's Pride" was never heard to better advantage, popular though it is. Sergeant Glass, who followed, sang with feeling, and the applause was frequent, the audience joining in the chorus. Mr. Bailey whistled and sang his piece with much verve. It was short, and though an encore was called for it was not replied to. Private McDonald then regaled us with some selections on his gramophone, which were distinctly good, although the words were, as they always will be on a Gramophone, at times indistinct. Band Master Walsh's rendering of *The Mighty Deep* was very fine, his rich voice lending itself admirably to so fine a song. Mrs. Walsh accompanied him and materially contributed to the success of the song. Mr. Turner, who sang next held the attention of the audience throughout his performance. His powerful voice carried well all over the house, and the applause which greeted him showed how much his performance had been appreciated. Corporal McLachlan followed with a Solo on the Cornet, and delighted the audience with an old favourite "The Lost Chord." Lieut., A. J. H. Maclean then gave one of the Jacobite Melodies, which was encored and responded to. Bombardier Paris succeeded, with a recitation. He is an old favourite at our concerts, and his rendering of the dialogue which included a conversation between an Englishman and a Scotchman was particularly good. Sergeant Major Coyle being unavoidably absent, the interval followed, during which those who remained seated had an opportunity of admiring the arrangement of the stage scenery which lent an effective background to the proceedings.

The Band again opened, with a selection entitled "*On the Road to Moscow*," the fine music of which was much appreciated. Mr. Bailey's song which followed caught on well with the audience who joined in whenever he came to "She was bred in old Kentucky, take her boy, you're mighty lucky, when you marry a girl like Su," and was greatly applauded. The Reverend N. H. Lash then gave a spirited address, which proved to be the feature of the evening. He modestly compared it to the 'something in the jam' which he had learnt to know so well in his younger days. In the course of his remarks he said "We have had the jam, also the Dundee Marmalade to-night, and to my lot falls the duty of revealing what is in the jam." He referred to the order which owing to an accident placed the Seamen's Institute in Hastings, which is under his special charge, out of bounds, and was at once attended by very many more men of the Regiment, and he mentioned the invaluable help rendered to that Institute by the 93rd Lodge of the I. O. G. T., who had come forward with an offer to provide a programme for an entertainment once a week for four months. On the subject of the Temperance Association he echoed the sentiments of all present when he said that an Association which could provide so pleasant an evening as we were all having that night must have some backbone in it, and be worth supporting. The Reverend Mr. Lash told us how a member of the Royal Army Temperance Association showed his grit the other day by coming forward, at a time when his pal was dangerously ill in hospital, and placing the whole of his bounty money, a sum of fifteen sovereigns, in his, Mr. Lash's, hands

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to provide a suitable burial in the event of his friend not recovering. Continuing, the speaker related the story of how a crowd collected once round a woman who was under the influence of drink, and derived much amusement from the sight. A policeman approached and told her to go away home, whereupon she asked what it had to do with him. A boy's voice in the crowd was heard saying "Choose partners for the next dance, please!" which evoked a roar of laughter from the crowd. One man, however, noticed that a small girl there was not laughing, and in answer to his inquiry for the reason, said in the saddest manner "I do not think it is funny, she is my mother." So, bringing it more home to us, Mr. Lash reminded us that when we see a man under the influence of drink, instead of it appealing to us as funny or amusing, it ought to strike us that there is some one sitting at home who is saying "It is not funny, he is my son, and it is breaking my heart;" and we should do our best to save him, if not for his own sake, at any rate for hers. "However," Mr. Lash concluded, "I did not come here to try and make you sad, and I had better go this minute."

After the address Lieut. J. Kennedy gave us "*When the blue eyes*," a song in which his voice showed to great advantage, a fact which was evidenced by the vociferous demand for an encore. "*Let us Forget*," a short song which suited his voice no less, equally delighted his audience. A part song by the Band was the next item on the programme, and was most effective. The cornet accompaniment was very sweet and the whole performance showed signs of trouble taken and careful coaching. Lance-Corporal Finlayson next came forward and in his usual style gave us an exhibition sword dance, which showed in its faultless performance no signs of his having allowed his steps to rust in the steamy weather of Calcutta. However this is so well known to us all that a mere reference is guarantee of quality. Pipe Major Lynch played for him. Mr. Turner's song was no less successful than his effort in the first part, and in response to prolonged applause he gave us "The Skipper and Boy." Another recitation by Bombardier Paris then followed and was appreciated no less than his performance in the first part. It was evident to all his audience that he was a master of the art.

In conclusion, Band Master Walsh, accompanied by Mrs. Walsh, again delighted the audience with a song, which gave his bass voice full scope. The Reverend Mr. Gillan being unavoidably prevented from being present the singing of the National Anthem concluded one of the most enjoyable evenings it has been our pleasure to have this hot weather. No account of it however would be complete without a word of thanks to Sergeant-Major Ditcham who ably performed the duties of Master of the Ceremonies, and to Sergeant Creek, of the District Staff Office, who very kindly accompanied on the piano throughout, to the entire satisfaction of the performers.

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Frae Glesca.

—o—

To Private Duncan Macgillivray,
93rd Highlanders,
India.

Dear Duncan o' the "93,"
Ma guid an' trusty cronie;
Tho' mony miles across the sea,
As frien'—ye're first o' ony.

Ye dinna ken hoo prood I feel
Whene'er you sen' a letter;
It mak's me me jump frae heid tae heel
Wi' joy—I'm no' richt better.

I've read a' thro' the *Thin Red Line*,
It stirs ilk Scottish he'rt;
Like your auld corps—it aye will shine,
An' play a noble pairt.

The "Dabber" sen's his love tae ye;
He ne'er forgets yon nicht
When puddin's het an' barley bree
Were scattered left an' richt.

An' Malcolm—aye yer true-blue frien'—
Wi' chums frae faur an' near,
A' drank yer health, on Hallowe'en,
In "good old glorious Beer."

Hoo's a' the praw, praw Hielan'men
O' the brave auld "93"?
May ilka ane return again
Tae Scotia, the free.

For mony a lass in Glesca toon
Does weary unco sair,
An' wishes that her kilty loon
Was squeezin' her ance mair.

But, Duncan lad, ne'er fash yer heid—
When ye come mairchin' hame
O' *Tattie Scones* ye'll hae a feed,
An' change your lassie's name.

Then, up oor glasses we'll hae fill't,
For nocht we'll gie a damn—
We'll dicht the glabber frae her's kilt,
An' hae a Hielan' dram.

I'll noo conclude, but, Duncan, min'
For lass an' hame ne'er worry—
Sea here's "neesh, neesh" for auld langsyne,
Your's truly, "Wullie Murray.

(The above verses appeared in our columns about five years ago, but there are many now in the Regiment who will not have seen them before,—and we feel convinced the lassies in "Glesca toon," or those whose "Duncans" have not yet returned, have not changed since those days.

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Visit of Lord Roberts to Stirling.

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INTERESTING CEREMONIES.

(*From the Stirling Sentinel.*)

Friday was a day of incessant rain in Stirling, and the visit of Lord Roberts to the ancient town was shorn of much of its effect and enjoyment by the wretched weather. Notwithstanding the unpropitious conditions, the programme was carried out in its entirety, Lord Roberts walking round the old buildings of the Castle in the afternoon, and showing the greatest interest in everything that was to be seen, in a perfect downpour, with the wind sweeping in stormy gusts from every quarter.

His arrival at the station was punctual to the minute, the train steaming in at 12 51. The saloon carriage in which his Lordship travelled with his staff was drawn up opposite a large umbrella tent which had been erected on the platform, wherein were gathered the Provost and Magistrates of the burgh and a number of military officers, including General Sir Ian Hamilton and the Commandant at Stirling Castle, Colonel Hunt. Lord Roberts' appearance was the signal for a hearty cheer, and immediately the guns at the Castle gave intimation to a wider circle of his arrival.

Provost Thomson, who was introduced to Lord Roberts by Colonel Hunt, addressing the Commander-in-Chief, said—Lord Roberts, we are taking advantage of this your first visit to Stirling as Commander-in-Chief to bid you welcome, and to say how gratified we are that you should have acceded to our wish to present you with an address. (Cheers.) We feel that we are only giving expression to the spontaneous feeling of our fellow-citizens when we bid you thus welcome, for not only do they feel the highest regard and esteem for your Lordship, but we know that our fellow-countrymen everywhere entertain for you the most sincere respect. (Cheers.) Your Lordship will understand that it was only because you had come here in strict performance of military duties, and because of the limited time allotted for the discharge of these duties, that we did not press upon you the acceptance of a fuller ceremonial. (Cheers.) I will now ask the Town Clerk to read the address from the Town Council of Stirling.

Mr. Morris, Town Clerk, read the address, which was in the following terms:—

To Field-Marshal the Right Hon Earl Roberts,
of Kandahar and Pretoria, V.C., &c.

May it please your Lordship—We the Provost, Magistrates and Councillors of the Royal Burgh of Stirling respectfully offer your Lordship a sincere welcome to our ancient town. We know that we are representing the feeling of all our people in seeking to pay honour to one who, by his outstanding career in the army, has won not only the highest regard of the soldiers, but also a first place in the heart of the nation.

The conspicuous services which your Lordship lately rendered to the Crown and to the Empire will long be remembered, for it was when the country's need was greatest that you nobly answered the call to arms and carried to success the task you had set yourself. In receiving your Lordship on this your first visit to our town as Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces, we would recall the fact that Stirling has been from days of old a place of arms, that Scotland's most famous battlefields lie near, and that our ancient Castle on the hill has been for many centuries the abode of soldiers. From the castle gates our soldiers have gone forth to fight their country's battle, many of them to take their part under your Lordship on the Indian Frontier and in Afghanistan, in upholding the position of Britain in the Great Indian Empire. None marched forth more willingly than those who during the recent war in South Africa went to serve under your Lordship's command.

In name of the whole inhabitants, we would wish your Lordship many years of health; and we would ask your Lordship to accept an expression of the honour which, we feel, is conferred upon our burgh by your presence here to-day; and we would respectfully offer you a sincere and cordial welcome to the town of Stirling.

JAMES THOMSON, Provost.
DAVID B. MORRIS, Town Clerk.

The address, which is beautifully illuminated by Mr. J. E. Shearer, artist, Stirling, consists of two pages. For heading it has the crest and motto ("Virtute et valore") of Lord Roberts, the supporters of the crest being a Highlander of the 92nd Regiment, and on the opposite side a Goorkha. On the left hand side of the first page the Stirling Burgh seals are cleverly incorporated, while the second page is made even more interesting by water-colour sketches of Stirling Castle, the Borestone, and the Old Bridge. The address, which is in book form, is bound in Persian calf, with the Stirling arms carved in silver on the top of the case. Attached by a ribbon are impressions of the ancient burgh seals in wax. The reading of the address was greeted with occasional cheers.

Lord Roberts said—Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors of the Royal Burgh of Stirling,—I am deeply sensible of the honour you are doing me to-day in presenting me with this address of welcome, and I beg that you will accept my most sincere thanks for your kind reception. (Cheers.) I have been in Stirling in former days, but I am delighted to come here again as Commander-in-Chief, and to be received in this public and gratifying manner by the Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors. (Cheers.) I think I have had under my command at some time or other every Highland and every Scottish regiment that exists. (Cheers.) You, Mr. Provost, have referred to the Indian Mutiny. It was in that campaign I first saw a Highland regiment, the Ninety-Third. It came out there, and I remember how splendidly they behaved at the Relief of Lucknow, and particularly at the capture of Secundra Bagh under Sir Colin Campbell. Later on, in Afghanistan, my work was chiefly with two Highland regiments, the Seventy-Second and the Ninety-Second. They were both with me in that march you have referred to, and did splendid service. (Cheers.) In South Africa we had battalions of every Scottish regiment, and on all occasions the Scottish regiments behaved with distinguished loyalty and with distinguished courage, and I am most deeply indebted to them for the services they performed on many occasions. (Cheers.) I assure you all I am most grateful for your reception of me, and I thank you most sincerely. (Cheers.)

His Lordship was then introduced to an old 72nd man in the person of Mr. William M'Pherson, keeper of the County Buildings, Stirling, who was with Lord Roberts, then Major-General Sir Frederick Roberts, in Afghanistan, and who took part in the engagement of Peiwar Kotal, and the famous march to Kandahar. Mr. M'Pherson was present on Friday as one of the town's halberdiers, attired in the picturesque dress of the days of Mary of Guise, and his fine appearance was commented upon by Lord Roberts. Mr. James M'Bride, one of the other halberdiers, is a Gordon Highlander, on furlough, who wears the Frontier medal, while the third halberdier was ex-Bugle-Major James Ritchie, a holder of the Volunteer long service medal. The Town's Officer, Mr. Williamson, carrying the mace, completed the civic *ensemble*.

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Lord Roberts afterwards shook hands with the Magistrates and Town Councillors, and prepared to leave for the Castle. At his special request, although it was raining heavily, the carriages were opened, and the public acknowledged the General's thoughtfulness by a hearty cheer. His Lordship, who wore his military greatcoat over his uniform, was looking remarkably fit and well. The first carriage contained Lord Roberts, General Sir Archibald Hunter, General Ian Himilton, and Colonel Hunt. A laugh occurred just as the machine was moving off. Someone offered his Lordship an umbrella, but he laughingly declined, and a brother officer remarked that these luxuries were not allowed. The Staff Officer's followed in other machines. The decorations on the route to the Castle were not profuse, the only real attempts being at the station and Municipal Buildings, but the weather did not lend itself to work in this direction. The party drove by Murray Place, King Street, and Spittal Street to the Castle. His Lordship was cheered at various points on the way but nowhere with such heartiness as at Allan's School, where an organised demonstration took place. The children, who wore their Pretoria medals, gave the hero of the hour worthy reception. On arriving at the Castle lunch was served in the officers' mess, Provost Thomson having the honour of being invited,

Owing to the wet weather the inspection of the troops took place in the gymnasium, instead of in the upper square. There were on parade 106 of all ranks, made up as follows:—Officers, 7; warrant officer, 1; staff sergeants and sergeants, 8; drummer, 1; corporals, 8; lance-corporals and privates, 81. The officers present were:—Colonel Hunt, Major Patten, Captain Tweedie, Lieutenant M'Pherson, Captain and Adjutant Moulton Barrett, and Lieutenant and Quartermaster A. Beattie. Colonel Middleton, commanding the 3rd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Stirlingshire Militia), was also present, and among others who witnessed the inspection were the Rev. George Mure Smith, Stiring, chaplain to the garrision, and Rev. George Murray Sauchie, acting-chaplain to the Clackmannanshire Volunteers. The adjutants of the seven Volunteer battalions of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders likewise attended. The troops, by companies, received Lord Roberts with the general salute, and stood with arms sloped while the General and his staff walked round the lines. The inspection lasted only two or three minutes.

After conversing for a short time with the adjutants and other officers, Lord Roberts took part in an interesting ceremony—namely, the presentation of medals for distinguished conduct in the field to two Reservists of the 91st—Private Duncan Keir, Maryhill, and Private William Young, Newtongrange, Dalkeith. Private Keir, who is native of Kirkintilloch, was 10 years in the army, and had not been long in civil life when the war broke out. He was present with his regiment at Modder River and Paardeberg, at the latter of which place he was shot through the head, notwithstanding which he continued to assist wounded officers. He was also mentioned in despatches in connection with the Modder River engagement. Private Young was 13 years in the army before rejoining at the outbreak of the war. He was at Modder River, and received the medal for conspicuous conduct in continuing to signal under fire after he had been wounded. Lord Roberts inquired very kindly after the men and hoped they would fully recover from their injuries. As another instance of his thoughtfulness it may be mentioned that he asked if any of their friends were present, and on learning that the mothers of the young men were outside he sent for them, and shook hands with them, at the same time remarking that they ought to be very proud of their sons. His Lordship thereafter pinned the medals on the breasts of the two men. The inspection of the troops was followed by an inspection of the buildings. Accompanied by Colonel Hunt and Sergeant-Major Lindsay, his Lordship went over the various parts of the Castle, the historical features being described by Mr. White, one of the guides. The men's quarters, including the canteen, were visited, and everything was found satisfactory. The books and papers in the Orderly Room were carefully examined by Colonel Grove, Chief Staff Officer, and found in perfect order.

On leaving the Castle, Lord Roberts drove down to the Argyll and Sutherland Memorial Home, in which he spent a few minutes, and with which he was greatly pleased. From there he walked to the Military Hospital, which he also inspected, and expressed himself satisfied with the arrangements for the comfort of the patients, of whom there were five at the time of his visit. Re-entering his carriage, Lord Roberts drove down by St. John Street *en route* for the Ordnance Stores. Time did not permit of his visiting the Military Prison, but as he drove past he got a glimpse of the grounds through the open doorway. The drive was continued down Spittal Street, King Street, Murray Place, and Maxwell Place to the Ordnance Stores, at the entrance to which Lord Roberts left his carriage and was received by Major Oliver, the Officer in charge of the Stores, and Captain Bush, General Sir Ian Hamilton introducing them to his lordship. The party walked up the finely-wooded avenue to the main buildings, where the employees, about thirty in number, were drawn up in two ranks. His Lordship walked down the line, and spoke to all the men, many of whom are Reservists and old soldiers, asking about their past service and employment. At the close of his inspection he made a few remarks, expressing his satisfaction at having seen so many men who had passed through the Army finding employment here. A week or two ago, when unveiling a memorial in London to railway servants who had fallen in the war, he had a conversation with the manager of one of the great railway companies, who informed him that many hundreds of Reservists and time-expired men had been taken on by the Company during the past year or two, and were giving every satisfaction, while many of those who had returned to their employment had now better situations than before they left for South Africa. He (Lord Roberts) believed that old soldiers of good character, and who were willing to work, would have no difficulty in securing employment in the country. Lord Roberts afterwards visited the magazine erected a year or two ago, and also the armoury, and was entirely satisfied with his inspection. Before leaving, Lord Roberts and his staff had tea in Forthside House along with Major Oliver, the company numbering a dozen.

About ten minutes past five Lord Roberts left the Stores and drove to the station, his closing drive through the streets being the occasion of renewed demonstrations of enthusiasm, which Lord Roberts, as he had done all day, most graciously acknowledged. On the platform at the station Lord Roberts conversed for a few minutes with Mr. John Atkins, Cowane Street, a Crimean and Indian Mutiny veteran.

At 5.20 he left by train for Kennet House, Alloa, the residence of Lord Balfour of Burleigh, where he spent the night. As the train left the station another salute was fired from the Castle guns.

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The Boer War.

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Notes from my Diary.

By No. 6547, Private John Macdonald.

Most of our time in Heilbron was spent in digging trenches and doing outpost duty. The only bit of excitement during this period was a rumour that De Wet was retiring on Heilbron, which increased our night duty, however it turned out to be only a false alarm. We discovered a large amount of Boer ammunition in the town, which was promptly blown up. We made a short march to Gottenberg, about 15 miles from Heilbron, leaving one company at Riet Spruit. During our halt at Gottenberg, we were glad to see a train conveying supplies running to Heilbron. On the 28th June, we received orders to march back to Heilbron, where we were more or less renovated with shoes and tobacco etc. On the 29th the Highland Brigade left for Frankfort, so we were the only regiment left to garrison Heilbron. On the 6th of July the C. I. Vs. arrived from the Eastern Transvaal with an empty convoy. They were so badly off for clothes and were so doné up that the Ninety-First was ordered to escort the convoy; so on the 7th of July, they took over the town and we marched to Mark's Farm, where we handed the convoy over to the cavalry. On the 12th July we received orders to entrain for Pretoria and arrived there on 13th. On our arrival we formed up in front of the Continental Hotel and then marched to our place of encampment, near the cricket ground, where our prisoners had been kept previous to sending them to Waterval. Our Commanding Officer was congratulated by Lord Roberts on the "splendid appearance of the Regiment."

Our stay in Pretoria however was not destined to be long for we joined General Ian Hamilton's force and marched northwards through the nek of the Magaliesberg mountains, and arrived at Waterval without much opposition. Nothing of importance happened until the 20th July, when we heard that Lord Roberts had had an engagement at Diamond Hill. Early on the morning of the 23rd our scouts brought in a complete field hospital, which had belonged to the Boers. Apparently the Boers must have had very little scruples about Geneva Conventions, as the wagons were full of arms and ammunition. From here the direction of our march was changed to south east, and we came in touch with the Delagoa Bay railway. We halted at Bronkhorspruit for the night and there found that the large three span bridge had been blown up by one of our scouts, Burnham by name, an American. This act of Burnham's had been the means of forcing a large number of Boers to surrender, in addition to acquiring a large quantity of rolling stock. The weather during this period was very bad, bitterly cold and wet. Matters were made worse by a heavy gun overturning in a drift, and all the baggage animals being done up. Owing to these accidents, we had to encamp where we were. The next morning news went round that 2nd Lieut. McLaren had died from exposure. I really think that this was the worst experience we underwent during the campaign. On the 27th July Lord Roberts came into our camp and we learnt that the eastward operations were, for the time, abandoned. Consequently we were ordered to return to Pretoria. During the march back we passed by Commandant Wolmaran's house, which had claimed a large share of the attention of the Intelligence Department. Seventeen thousand pounds worth of specie and a Vickers-maxim gun were unearthed from the ground, in addition to a large quantity of ammunition and rifles. All the arms were confiscated, and as he had taken the oath of allegiance his family was deported from the country. Our stay in Pretoria was again destined to be short as we heard that a large party of Boers were in the Magaliesburg hills and had captured one of our posts. We moved out and encamped about four miles from the hills. Next morning we advanced, and, so far as we could make out, the enemy had abandoned their position, but we were soon disabused of this idea, when the order came that we were to take off all our equipment, excepting bandolier and water-bottle. We opened out into attack formation and could see the Berkshires scaling the hills, about two miles to our east, but apparently not without considerable loss. We managed to crawl within about 500 yards of the enemy's trenches and then received orders to pour in as rapid a fire as possible. The Boers were completely surprised and compelled to retire, but unfortunately we were unable to follow up their retirement as our gunners had opened fire, and we were somewhat baulked the advantage we had gained.

To be continued.

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Though desperately short of ammunition, the handful of brave Irish were still undaunted.

"Stiddy, me byes, stiddy!" cried Sergt. Finnigan. "Sure they be too far off yit; but phwhen they git furninst the little kopy yonder, try a few blank cartridges at 'em till yees git th' range!"—*Sporting Times.*

A piper, who hailed from the Isle of Skye was about to dress for Church Parade, when he found he had pipe-clayed two spats of the right foot instead of a pair. He got very excited, and rushed up to the Orderly Sergeant, exclaiming: "Och, sairjeant, how can she go on parade when one of her spats is both the same!"

Small Boy to Sentry Standing front of his sentry box. "Please, Mr. Soger, can we play at hide-and-seek round your kennel?"

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The English Soldier.

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A German View.

Translated from the German, "Die Woche."

Although on England's distant frontiers, like on those of the ancient Roman Empire, wars never cease, England is the smallest military power in the World, and by the laws which were drawn up in 1689, England is not allowed a standing army, on the strength of which the present English Kingdom is governed by Parliament, and England is positively refused the allowance of keeping a standing army. The British Army is constitutionally dependent on the Mutiny Act which has to be renewed yearly. It therefore is legally a continued exceptional institution.

The English army consists of six Army Corps, and is composed of a regular army of 150,000 men and troops serving with the colors, and 90,000 men of the reserve. The Militia Fighting Infantry strength is nominally 25,000 men, besides of Yeomanry and reserve Cavalry 35,000 men, and 250,000 Volunteers.

The special name that the British Soldier is known by is *Tommy Atkins*, through one musketeer distinguishing himself in the great Revolution in India, bringing himself into similar repute as our Fusilier Kutechope.

Tommy Atkins is very popular at present, and money, flannel and woollen clothes of different kinds are collected for him everywhere, and lines of cudgel poetry are made in his honor, and praises are sung from all sides, all the high class gentry subscribe to Tommy Atkins for his comfort in time of war. It is always the same in war time, Tommy is always respected, but in times of peace, he is the laughing stock of all London and the suburbs. In public houses and theatres, not only the private soldiers, but the Non-Commissioned Officers also are badly treated, and they are considered as citizens of the second class, in many cases admittance being absolutely refused them. There is only one class that remains true to him in times of peace and war, that is, the servant girls and nurses of London, because the uniform of the Grenadier Guards on holidays is grand and handsome The uniform is very attractive, and they all know it, as all the girls go to the Parks and try to get a sweetheart, without lettting their hearts get into a fever. According to a well known military man, no soldier unless of the high class is considered of any good whatever, and is put down as one of the vagabonds of the street, although there are a few of the high class who respect Tommy Atkins, and this has been more so since the war in South Africa.

The scorn of those who are not charmed by the soldier is not without cause, as the English Army of old was more efficient and hardy than at the present day, as the most of the soldiers are from the streets and labouring classes, and those who have learned no trade, also those who have failed in other profession more or less honestly, so have enlisted to save themselves from want and misery.

The well known Military Vicar, Mr. Hardy, speaking on the last Egyptian war, said, that an infantry soldier had to be arrested just before the war, because he had beaten one of the Non-Commissioned Officers, and on being asked why he had done it, he replied that "I want to go to prison, as I don't like fighting, I shall always try and do something like that, if I am ordered to go to war again." After he came out of prison all his comrades called him a coward; he said "I I know I am a coward, I only joined the Army to save myself from starvation." The Rev. Mr. Hardy remarked that he had very often heard the same remark, as most of the recruits for the regular army come from the labouring or working classes. The labour market therefore regulates the average quality of enlisted men. If the state of the labour market is good, only the trash remain for the military profession. But as a matter of fact the material is somewhat better, therefore it is no wonder that out of every 1,000 recruits only 18 are not able to read, and 11 not able to write their own names. If the British Soldier after joining the Army is desirous he can have a good education free.

The comfort of the English Soldier lies in his pay, and from the continental point of view is very high, as Infantry men receive one shilling a day. The Cavalry and Artillery one shilling and six pence, the Guards Cavalry get one shilling and nine pence. The deduction for messing is very small, and well conducted men not only get stripes and badges, but are also employed as Officers' servants, Canteen waiters, and in coffee shops, which brings them in extra pay and privileges. They are also exempted from all duties such as Guards, and other fatigues and parades. The pay rises by promotion, the highest amount received being five shillings per diem by the Sergt.-Major, besides free dwelling and often extra pay, which makes him very comfortable and more like a gentleman than a soldier. A militia soldier gets much more, the Yeomanry get five shillings per diem but the Yeomanry Sergt.-Major receives nearly ten shillings. The Military bands of the English Army are composed mostly of boys, they have very highly decorated uniforms, and receive pay from 14 to 18 pence per diem. Every soldier in the regular army is allowed four to six weeks furlough every year on full pay. In any case all the British Soldiers are Volunteers. At the commencement of the war in South Africa, they

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could not get enough men to fill all the corps up to there proper strength, and England had never been so hard pressed for men since the Crimean War. Before the commencement of the South African War the recruiting sergeant could be seen walking in Trafalgar Square, the centre of recruiting business, and they were compelled to accept lads at the age of 16 to 17 years of age, as the prescribed age of 18 years could not be adhered to. At this time the effective strength was only 50,000 men, which is 5 per cent. below the regular establishment.

The private soldier in barracks has every comfort, such as library, reading room with all sorts of papers, billiard room and canteen all at the very lowest cost, and a lot of other comforts and amusement. In time of peace Tommy is far better off than the average civilian, as they have merely nothing to do. They do not know what hard work really is. Some of the more educated men who come into the Army soon get tired of it, and purchase their discharge, and in this way the British Government credit £100,000 a year. Any soldier after serving a period of six months, who wishes to purchase his discharge, must pay a sum of £20.

Every recruit on joining the army has the question put to him, "Are you a married man or not?" If they answer "No," and it is afterwards found out that he is a married man, he is imprisoned for 2 years.

The period a man has to serve in the English Army is seven years with the colors and five years in the reserve. A soldier cannot enlist for 12 years with the colors, but after a soldier completes seven years with the colors, he may leave the service, but if he is desirous of remaining in the service, he may complete his 12 with the colors. The reservists are disliked more by the public, and they find it very difficult to obtain work after leaving the service, they are more like a man who has just come out of prison.

The discipline in the English Army is very soft and moderate, and good soldiers soon find that out, especially the military officer who does his duty from his heart, and the private soldier, who has punishment awarded, admits that it is his own fault. The majority of the oldest drill instructors mean one thing, and that is to try to get the men to shoot and drill properly and make good soldiers. The South African war, has proved that the men were not sufficiently practised in shooting and marching; everything that was to the disadvantage of the English Army in South Africa from the beginning was through the War Office, who were trying too much economy to reduce expenditure.

The inability of the troops to do long marches is in consequence of the manoeuvres being cut short, also an insufficiency of them. The manoeuvres are more often practised in a manner which gives every consideration to the hunting field of a lord, or other preserved lands, rather than from a view which would tend to greater efficiency. To avoid any damage to those grounds, the movements of troops are curtailed and to such a degree that often the proximity of a tennis ground or meadow land give one side the advantage.

The re-organization of the last year has improved many things and to what extent the serious lessons of the war now ending will be used sufficiently to produce a systematic change in the organisation of the English Army, no one can tell at present. Many may prophesy, especially after men like Lord Roseberry and Rudyard Kipling have thrown their powerful influence on the side of a modified system of military conscription, and it is possible that they may be right, but it is more probable that the aversion against all military things that is rooted in the British heart, will move stronger than the letters of fire of the days of Magersfontein and Colenso, and that all will be the same as before, that is the British uniform will remain what it is at present, not the King's Uniform but the uniform worn at the expense of the tax-payers by all those that go into the military service.

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Writing on the duel in Germany and Austria in the "Nineteenth Century," R. Cl. Bachofen von Echt says—In Austria an officer who refuses a duel or does not challenge in the case of an insult must leave the army with ignominy and is degraded from his rank just in the same way as in Germany. But if he kills or wounds his adversary in a duel he is punished and imprisoned in a fortress. In order to illustrate this contradiction it will be sufficient to cite a sad little incident which occurred a few years ago in the Austrian army. Lieutenant Marquis T. had a quarrel with another officer and was challenged to a duel. He asked a friend of his, Count L., a Captain on the general staff, his opinion about duelling and whether he thought it possible for an officer who was a good and obedient Catholic to accept a challenge. Count L. answered him by letter that in the same case he would refuse, that he considered duelling to be a great sin, and that therefore no consistent Catholic could accept or issue a challenge. Both were compelled to leave the army with disgrace and loss of rank—and that in Austria, where the Catholic Church is more powerful than in any other State. A striking illustration of the dilemma in which Austrian gentlemen may find themselves may be seen in the following episode. Mr. von O., who is a lawyer and an officer in the reserve, and who wrote some years ago a book against duelling, was recently prosecuted for having challenged another man to a duel. He was condemned to one month's ordinary imprisonment. He conducted his own defence, and pleaded in a splendid speech that, although an opponent of duelling, he was compelled to issue this challenge under pain of losing his military rank. The month's imprisonment, as we have seen, entails the loss of army rank; therefore, whether he challenged his insulter or refrained from doing so, he was compelled to lose his rank as an officer in the reserve.

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Letter to the Editor.

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To the Editor, The Thin Red Line.
JUNIOR UNITED SERVICE CLUB,
London, S. W., 30*th July* 1903.

DEAR SIR,—The publication in *The Thin Red Line* of the accompanying letter I addressed to the Editor the *St. James's Gazette*, (and which has also appeared in *The Standard*, *The Morning Post*, and *The Globe*), may, I think, interest some of your readers.

Faithfully yours,
W. GORDON-ALEXANDER, *Lt.-Col.*,
late 93rd Highlanders.

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.
Wednesday, 29th July 1903.

NEGLECT OF LORD CLYDE'S MONUMENT.

SIR,—Some sixteen years ago I endeavoured, by writing to several morning and evening journals, to attract the attention of the Government department which is supposed to look after our national monuments in London to the fact that the allegorical female figure at the foot of Lord Clyde's statue in Waterloo-place had then for some years been despoiled of half the length of the great sword attached to its waist. Will you, through your columns by publishing this letter, permit me again to attempt to catch the eye of some official of the department concerned, and to inform him that the monument remains to this day in the same mutilated condition, although standing on one of the most public sites in the capital of the Empire.

ONE WHO HAS FOLLOWED COLIN CAMPBELL TO VICTORY.

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4th Battallion News.

—o—

HARD WORK AT STOBS.

On 11th May the first party left Paisley for their annual training, and on the 13th they were joined by the main body at Irvine Moor, where they remained till the 22nd, when they removed to Stobs, where the tactical training was engaged in. At Stobs the Paisley contingent formed part of the 33rd Brigade under the command of Brigadier-General Macbean. Here the real training was in evidence. Only on one or two days were company drills or other regulation movements performed. The attention of the brigades was largely taken up with manœuvring, which occupied from early morning till late at night, and sometimes all night. Outpost work, convoy duties, sham fights, attack and defence work, formed almost the whole duties of the militia, and altogether the amount of work got in at this year's training was something more than the average. Through the whole course of the training the weather was of the worst possible description, and after a hard day's work the men looked in some cases like scarecrows, so bad was the condition of the ground. In the majority of cases the manœuvres had to be carried out wading almost knee deep in mud, but notwithstanding the adverse conditions, the health of the camp was good. The numbers of the 4th Battalion in camp were this year considerably smaller than in former years. This was caused through a number of men (about 250) who had served in the 3rd Battalion and other militia corps which were disembodied after 1st July last year not being allowed to train. A great number of these volunteered to train, but were not allowed to do so; otherwise the battalion, in spite of other casualties, would have been about 1000 strong in camp. Training extended over ninety days, part of which was spent in preliminary drill. Tents were struck at 12.5 a.m. on Saturday morning last, and the whole of the 4th battalion, under the command of Colonel Dick, C.B., left for home, coming via Glasgow. Breaking into two portions, the first was in charge of Colonel Dick with Captain F. J. Richardson, D.S.O., Adjutant, and the second portion under Lieut.-Colonel W. D. Campbell, D.S.O. This latter portion, owing to some misunderstanding, were taken to Hamilton, and this caused a delay of about two hours. The battalion pipe band accompanied the first detachment, and not a few citizens were considerably exercised to know the reason of the din of the band which their arrival occasioned. The brass band accompanied the second detachment, and on their arrival at the barracks at Paisley at 6.7 the men had breakfast, arrangements being carried out by Captain and Quartermaster R. C. Williamson, who arrived in Paisley on the day previous. After breakfast the dismissal was proceeded with, and having got once more into civilian attire, the barracks were clear of the men by 10 a.m. The training was much harder than in former years. It is almost certain that the training next year will be at Irvine.—*Paisley and Renfrewshire Gazette.*

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What the Parrot is saying.

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As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

WHAT he wisna a European. he wis a Hielan'man That he waukened and foond he wis fast asleep.

That those that canna swim will tak' the train to Poona.

That the Gymnastic instructor wantit tae ken whit his heid wis daeing amang his feet.

That he would turn oot the Gaird to all M. P's passing his post.

That the treasury will never be removed.

That it wis two o'clock i' the morning that nicht when they got their tea.

That if he threw it oot he wid drink it.

That he drew na pay for two months last week.

What its cuisin at Jalapahar is saying :—

That a' he had tae eat that day wis a peice o' dry rootee and butter.

That he wis wearin a puttee roun his inside.

That he sat infront o' his horse and shouted three cheers for Her Maist Gracious Majesty King O' England.

That he tied the bungalow on tae the pony.

That a' the sodgers held a conspiracy tae get thir photos taen.

That there wis' na' a dry tear in the Hall.

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Ninety-third Calendar for October 1903.

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1 Th. Establishment raised to 25 officers, 43 sergeants, 21 drummers and pipers and 820 rank and file=909, 1877. Tochi Campaign: return of second column to Datta Khel from Khaza Valley, 1897.
2 F. Returned to Sheranni from 2nd Khaza column 1897.
3 S. Zowe column under General Egerton left Sheranni, 1897.
4 S. NINETY-THIRD on H. M. Frigate *Galatea* and Troopship *Tyne* left Newfoundland for Sunderland, 1815.
5 M.
6 Tu.
7 W. New colours presented by Duke of Wellington at Canterbury, 1834; these colours were carried through Crimean Campaign and are now in Glasgow Cathedral. Murree Football Cup, won, 1896.
8 Th.
9 F.
10 S. Wing from Sialkot to Lahore for Durbar, 1864; Sir John Lawrence, K.C.B., Viceroy and Governor-General of India. Battalion leaves Ranikhet for Shahjahanpur to guard Boer prisoners of War, 1901.
11 S.
12 M. Fourth attack of cholera at Peshawar necessitating move into camp, 1862. Frontier Medals distributed, Chaubattia, 1898.
13 Tu. Canterbury for Weedon by detachments, 1834.
14 W. Canterbury for Weedon, 1834. Battalion arrives Shahjahanpur, 1901.
15 Th. Canterbury for Weedon, 1834.
16 F. Halifax for Quebec, 1838.
17 S. Siege of Sevastopol commenced, 1854. Four companies to Ferozepore, 1864.
18 S. Tochi Campaign.—Return of Zowe column to Sheranni, 1897.
19 M. Arrival of Boer prisoners of War at Shahjahanpur, 1901.
20 Tu. Lieut.-Colonel Rothe retired, 1853.
21 W. William Bernard Ainslie, Lieut.-Colonel, 1858.
22 Th. Head-quarter Wing left Chaubattia for Almora manœuvres, 1898.
23 F. Arrived Guernsey from Fort George, 1800; fully armed and equipped. Establishment reduced to 35 sergeants, 22 drummers, 650 rank and file, 1817.
24 S.
25 S. NINETY-THIRD disembarked, Sunderland from Newfoundland, 1815. **BATTLE OF BALAKLAVA**, the "**THIN RED LINE**" of glorious memory, 1854. Tochi Campaign; third Khaza column left Sheranni, 1897.
26 M.
27 Tu. Embarked by detachments at Liverpool for Dublin, 1835. Returned, Sialkot, from Lahore, December 1864.
28 W.
29 Th. Embarked Liverpool for Dublin, 1835. Arrived Quebec from Halifax, 1838. Colonel F. W. Traill-Burroughs relinquished Command, 1873. Returned from Almora manœuvres, 1898.
30 F. William Macbean, Lieut.-Colonel, 1873.
31 S. Arrived Montreal from Quebec, 1838. Tochi Campaign; Sadda Khan, Chief of the Madda Khan Waziris, surrendered to General Corrie Bird, Inzar Kuch, 1898.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant.—No. 5667, Lance-Sergeant A. Goddard, "A" Company, dated 17th August 1903.

To be Corporal.—No. 5865, Lance-Corpoal F. Johnson, "F" Company, dated 17th August 1903.

PAY OF RANK.

To be paid Lance-Sergeant.—No. 4878, Corporal J. McLauchlan, "G" Company, dated 17th August 1903.

To be paid Lance-Corporals.—No. 7422, Lance-Corporal R. Swan, "B" Company, dated 4th August 1903; No. 6218, Lance-Corporal A. Campbell, "E" Company dated 17th August, 1903.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Acting Sergeant-Major in the Cawnpore Volunteer Rifles.—No. 3005, Sergeant A. Macdonald, Unattached List, dated 26th July, 1903.

To be Provisional Lance-Sergeant.—No. 5291, Corporal R. Tawse, "D" Company, dated 19th August, 1903.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 7698, Private W. Corkell, "D" Company, dated 4th August, 1903; No. 4922, Bandsman R. Green, "A" Company, dated 11th August, 1903, No. 5728, Private R. Anderson, "E" Company, whilst employed on Garrison Police.

To be Drummer.—No. 6942, Private J. Quinn, "A" Company, dated 25th August, 1903.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 3d. per diem:—

"B" Company.

No. 4223, Private J. Hutton.

"C" Company.

No. 4092, Pte. J. White. | No. 4216. Pte. H. Whyte.

"H" Company.

No. 4183, Lce.-Corpl. J. Burke.

At 2d. per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 3872, Pte. W. Gray. | No. 6162, Pte. J. McLauchlan.

"C" Company.

No. 6064, Pte. N. Campbell. | No. 4672, C. Stewart.
No. 4972, Pte. J. Keir.

"D" Company.

No. 5694, Lce.-Cpl. J. Blake. | No. 6226, Pte. W. Hume.

"F" Company.

No. 6237, Lce.-Cpl. A. Hogg. | No. 6245, Pte. R. Ross.

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"G" Company.

No. 6248, Lce.-Cpl. J. Murray | No. 6238, Pte. J. Smith.

At 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 5049, Pte. J. Rafferty. | No. 7063, Pte. J. Penman.
" 8082, " J. Gallacher. | " 6911, " A. Nicol.
" 7816, " J. Gale. | " 6926, " T. G. Thomson

"B" Company.

No. 5410, Pte. H. Bartholmew | No. 7089, Pte. J. Stewart.
" 7067, " W. Armstrong. | " 7780, " C. McGowan.
" 6959, " J. Patterson. | " 7896, " W. Reid.

"C" Company.

No. 4417, Pte. J. Riddle. | No. 8057, Pte. P. Wright.
" 4311, " A. Wight. | " 7185, " M. Lapsley.
No. 7467, Pte. J. McLuckie.

"D" Company.

No. 6973, Pte. A. Watson, | No. 8088, Pte. D. McNab.
" 6345, " R. Wylie. | " 7752, " W. McLauchlan
" 6918, " J. McIntosh. | " 7421, " D. Hope.

"E" Company.

No. 6810, Pte. J. Meek. | No. 7217, Pte. W. Stormonth

"F" Company.

No. 7082, Pte. W. Allan. | No. 7205, Pte. F. Wallace.
No. 7001, Pte. T. Donohue.

"G" Company.

No. 4596, Pte. C. Ryans. | No. 7669, Pte. D. McDonald

"H" Company.

No. 6369, Pte. J. Robertson.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service :—
No. 4430, Private W. Morrison, "F" Company.
" 4922, Bandsman R. Green, "A" "

To complete twelve years' service with the colours :—
No. 6143, Corporal J. Robinson, Unattached List.
" 6942, Drummer J. Quin, "F" Company.

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 5667, Sergeant A. Goddard, "A" to "E" Coy.
" 5865, Corporal F. Johnson, "F" " "A" "
" 6942, Drummer J. Quinn, "A" " "F" "

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

The number 9245 has been allotted to Private M. Cunningham, "B" Company.

TAKEN ON STRENGTH.

Transferred from 2nd Gordon Highlanders and posted to Companies as under :—
Private J. Mulholland to "G" Company, dated 8-7-03.
" W. Croll " "B" " " 16-7-03.

STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

Transferred to Punjab-Bengal Unattached List for employment as 1st Class Instructor in the Assam Bengal Railway Volunteer Rifles :—
No. 2519, Color-Sergeant W. Smith, dated 19th July 1903.

Transferred to Army Reserve in India :—
No. 5708, Private J. Tierney, "H" Company, dated 18th August 1903.

RESTORATION OF SERVICE.

In accordance with para. 1842 K. R.
The Service forfeited by :—
No. 7501, Corporal J. McKinley, "C" Company.

FURLOUGHS.

No. 1778, Cr.-Sgt. T. A. Swan, "G" Coy., 5-8-03 to 21-8-03.
" 5844, Piper J. Burns, "A" Coy., 5-8-03 to 4-10-03.
" 5885, Pte. W. Morrison, "G" Coy., 19-8-03 to 18-9-03.
" 6703, " W. Houston, "G" Coy., 14-8-03 to 30-9-03.
" 7797, " J. Morrison, "A" Coy., 13-8-03 to 12-10-03.
" 2736, Bd.-Sgt. W. Hall, "E" Coy., 1-9-03 to 1-10-03.
" 4339, Lce.-Cpl. F. Bracey, "F" Coy., 1-9-03 to 1-10-03.
" 6070, Drummer J. Seton, "G" Coy., 1-9-03 to 30-9-03.

"	3079,	Sergt.	A. A. Wallace, "B" Coy.	9th Sept. 1903 to 1st Oct. 1903.
"	6124,	Corpl.	R. Silcock, "G" "	
"	5118,	Lce.-Cpl.	D. McLean, "E" "	
"	5461,	Private	D. Comrie "H" "	
"	6299,	"	J. Kelley, " "	
"	7379,	"	A. Lockhart, "A" "	
"	4482,	"	J. Mowatt, "D" "	
"	5795,	"	T. McGowan, "F" "	
"	4553,	"	F. Quinn, " "	
"	6212,	"	A. Wallace, " "	
"	8006,	"	R. C. Coventry, "D" "	
"	5543,	"	W. Hogg, "C" "	
"	7185,	"	M. Lapsley, " "	
"	7628,	"	J. Macey, "F" "	
"	5551,	"	W. Montgomery "E" "	
"	5279,	"	T. Pollock, "D" "	
"	7010,	"	J. Robertson, "E" "	

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Domestic Occurrences.

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BIRTH.

WHITE—At Calcutta on 1st August 1903, the wife of No. 8966, Private D. White of a daughter—Constance Elizabeth.

DEATHS.

RENNIE—At the Station Hospital, Jalapahar, on the 6th August 1903, No. 7380, Private R. J. Rennie, "G" Company.

SUTHERLAND—At the Station Hospital, Calcutta, on the 14th August 1903, No. 6292, Private J. Sutherland, "G" Company.

BLAIR—At the Station Hospital, Jalapahar, on the 16th August 1903, No. 2519, Sergeant D. Blair, "E" Company.

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OF THE

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No. 6—Vol. IX.] CALCUTTA—OCTOBER 1903. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

As the time draws on for our departure from Calcutta, we begin to feel that our interests are becoming divided. Birds of passage as soldiers are, we soon find that all the attractions of a new place were but pleasant as novelties, and when that pleasure has worn off, we are once more ready to undertake a shift. But this is almost generalizing too broadly. As a matter of fact, as is so often the case, we know so little of our new destination that comparison is impossible. Our moods vary with our surroundings. During a route march, on a really steamy Calcutta morning, there will not be a single man who is not looking forward to the dry air of Poona. Again, through the day, when life seems scarcely worth living, and indeed to all appearance there is very little sign of life beyond the lazy drone of a few sleepy coolies, or the hum of animal life through the burning heat of the sun, who would not be anywhere but in Fort William? But let us pause to reflect, when, the day having drawn to a close, we find ourselves settled down to an evening's enjoyment at a theatre, or partaking of the hospitality of a "social," or spending the evening at one of the many houses where we always meet with such a warm welcome, who will prefer not to think of the time, not so far distant either, when we must take leave of the many good and true friends we have been so fortunate as to make during our stay in Calcutta, and who will not feel that a broken eighteen months in Calcutta has been all too short for us? And thus are our feelings divided. When we get to Poona, we shall have to start all over again to make new friends, but we venture to think that at no station outside Scotland shall we ever meet with such a sociable or friendly community as we are on the point of leaving. Calcutta people have been kind enough to express, time after time, their warm interest in the Regiment and the welfare of its men, but we can assure them that from henceforth the genuineness of their hospitality will be proverbial among us, and that it will not soon be forgotten. Moreover, this applies equally to each and all of us, Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men. We feel that nowhere could we have met with more honest open-heartedness, and from people too who know that we have not the facilities for returning a tithe of it. Therefore, it is with a genuine feeling of regret that we shall bid farewell to Calcutta, although at the same time we cannot pretend to feel sorrow at leaving the atmosphere of Fort William.

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During the month, Lieutenant H. M. Thompson returned from leave in Shillong. Lieutenant the Hon. R. Bruce also rejoined from a garrison class at Ranikhet, while from Chakrata we were augmented by the return of 2nd-Lieuts. Falconar-Stewart and Cuninghame. Lieut. O. C. Herbert, on the expiry of his six months' leave home, reported himself towards the end of the month, and has taken over the arduous duties of Acting Paymaster from 2nd-Lieut. Kennedy, while Lieut. G. Akers-Douglas also returned after two months in Simla and Quetta. Captain H. H. G. Hyslop has had to be recalled from Kashmir a fortnight before his leave was up, in order to be in time for our departure. With the return of Captain Darroch and 2nd-Lieut. R. G. Maclaine, accompanied by three attached officers and conducting the Jalapahar detachment, we shall by the first week in October have reached our full strength for the shift.

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We have this month to congratulate Lieutenant the Hon. R. Bruce on his promotion to that rank.

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The Football Team under charge of Captain P. D. McCandlish went to Bombay early in the month to compete in the Bombay Rovers Tournament. They emerged victorious by two goals to *nil* from the match with the Seaforths in the first round, but succumbed to the Rovers by one goal to love in the second. They returned to Calcutta before the end of the month. The Cheshires have this year retained the cup.

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The Medical Officer has been giving a course of lectures on rescues from drowning, etc., to the Battalion taking them two Companies at a time.

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The campaign against dogs in the Fort has resulted in the banishment of all the barrack dogs to the edge of the moat in the vicinity of the Plassey Gate. The spot recalls to passing strangers the description of the vale of tears.

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Universal satisfaction has been expressed at the reversion to the old hours of opening of the canteen.

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The early part of the month was cool and fresher than we have experienced this year, but a change for the worse set in, and for two weeks we had to put up with a severe break in the monsoon. Towards the end of the month, however, rain fell in great quantities, and it once more became bearable. This is probably the last of the monsoon, and indeed it is late for it to keep on.

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A Boxing Tournament under the direction of Major Mackenzie took place in the Dalhousie Institute on the 22nd September. Though the fighting left nothing to be desired, the attendance was poor, and the profits of the evening—a sum of Rs. 462—has been forwarded to the Treasurer of the Calcutta Soldiers' Institute, for which funds are being collected.

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We regret that so long a period has been allowed to elapse between the two portions of "The Boer War" contributed by Private J. Macdonald. In our last volume the narrative was abruptly terminated, owing to an accident, and it was only with our last number that we were able to continue its publication.

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We are glad to be able to acknowledge among our contemporaries the receipt of "*Faugh a Ballagh*," the Regimental paper of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, the famous old 87th foot. The interruption of its publication was owing to the Regiment being on active service in South Africa. "*Faugh a Ballagh*" has always been one of the best examples of Regimental Journalism.

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Snipe shooting has set in round some parts of Calcutta again and Thursday bags of 19½, 33½, 50 and 36½ couple have been obtained from the Officers' Mess. Lieutenant Langton with 36½ couple to his own gun, and 50 couple to Lieutenants Hon. R. Bruce and Cheape are the best bags recorded.

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Fighting Mac.

—o—

There's a lull in the air we're breathing,
There's a Pall we'd hasten to hold,
A soldier and man has died seething
In glories world-famed though unscroll'd!

A life's gone that can't be forgotten,
And a time must come and unfold
The proud virtues of one who could do and has done
All that annals of yore e'er told.

'T were mean tribute, surely, to grudge him
The dues which but guile may withhold,
The spirit that seeks to adjudge him
Must needs be just, gallant and bold!

A chord in the dirge of all nations,
Resounding to valour's own pow'r,
Has been struck by this soul, whose stout heart in its whole
Was England's tried trust in her hour.

Who dares taint the doom of this Briton,
Who dares his pure epitaph soil?
'Tis thus that his tomb shall be writ on
With truths from which cowards recoil:—

"'Tis here a proud spirit lies perish'd,
'Tis here slander halts, smitten back,
For, this kinsman in life, ours in weal, ours in strife!
Lives still in our hearts, Fighting Mac!"

J. S. F.

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Elephant Shooting in Madras.

—o—

I had been wearily following the footsteps of elephants for three days, and was beginning to grow despondent, when on came a heavy shower of rain and all the ardour that was left in me quickly became damped. Suddenly my shikari, who had been sitting like the prehistoric ape with his knees up to his chin and his arms over his head, jumped up and signed to me to listen. I could just hear a low sort of grumbling noise, which gradually became louder till the whole jungle resounded with the shrieks and squeals and other noises of elephants We had been sitting up quite close to a large herd and did not know it. We then cautiously made our way towards the herd, the rain having now stopped, and we found the elephants feeding in some very thick jungle. As we could not see a tusker we sat down and waited; it was very interesting to see them feeding and to observe what a wreck an old female elephant could make of a fine young tree in about three minutes. A youngster who seemed very restless and was wandering all about as if looking for something, suddenly caught sight of us and gave the alarm to the others, causing them to go off with a tremendous crashing through the jungle. I thought I had seen the last of the elephants for that day, when my shikari drew my attention to the fact that only half of the herd had gone and that the rest who were feeding a little way off were moving up in our direction. The jungle was very thick, being composed of a short scrubby tree about twelve feet high, and it was possible to see in it about as far as a dog can see in a hay field. However, there were numerous animal tracks going in all directions, but as the undergrowth met at three feet above the pathway the only way to get a view at all was by lying on the ground and looking down one of these tracks. While engaged in this amusement I saw the feet of a large elephant coming up towards me. Unfortunately I could only see his feet; however, I got my rifle ready and waited. When the beast got within ten yards of me his head appeared above the bushes, and joy!! there before me was fine tusker. As soon as I saw the elephant he saw me and when he saw what must have seemed to him a strange animal sitting right in front of him, he stopped and regarded me with much the same expression as a bishop would a small boy who was walking down the aisle in the middle of his sermon. I quickly got up my rifle and let him have a bullet from my cordite express between the eyes. He rolled over on his side and never moved a muscle. I was about to rush up and dance a war dance round the elephant when my shikari caught me by the coat and pulled me down again, just in time to avoid the rest of the herd, who charged up over us. There were big and little elephants, young and old, to the number of twenty at least. Luckily none of them took it into their heads to walk on me, and so I escaped from what was a very nasty position.

Next day when sitting in my tent a coolie was brought in by my shikari. The unfortunate individual was in a terrible state. He was so out of breath he could hardly speak, both hands were severely cut, and the skin seemed to be all rubbed off his fore arms and elbows. His knees were in a shocking state with cuts, and so were his feet, whilst his whole body was covered with scratches from head to foot. His story was that at a place about eight miles away he had been attacked by a herd of forty elephants and that the whole herd, headed by what be called a one horned elephant had pursued him for five miles. By a one horned elephant, I took it he meant a rogue, as they are usually elephants that have lost a tusk. As I was beginning to know a little about the character of the Madrasi native at the time, I concluded that he had probably seen one or possibly two elephants. That he had run five miles I did not doubt, the sight of an elephant is quite enough to make a Madrasi coolie run till he dropped; and by the look of the man before me I should say that there had been two or three precipices on his five mile course.

Anyhow, as it was probable the "khubber" was pucca, I consulted my shikari and we decided to set out the following morning. So at four o'clock, before the sun was up, we started. After walking for about two hours we came upon the tracks of the elephants, and followed them until eleven o'clock, when we overtook the herd. They had gone into the thick jungle to escape the heat of the sun. As the shikari declared it would be useless to endeavour to get near them when they were quiet, and we would have to wait till they began to feed in the afternoon, I retired under a tree, and as my tiffin coolie had come up in the meantime, I proceeded to lay in provision for the future. Then having stretched myself out full length on the grass I was soon asleep. At half past one my shikari woke me up to say that the elephants were beginning to stir, so I sent my tracker to reconnoitre. He was a funny little man belonging to an antediluvian jungle tribe, and he could climb a tree like a monkey. Off he went and got up the highest tree he could see, but the information he gave was not much good, as he was in such a state of excitement that he declared every elephant he saw had tusks as thick as his leg, so I had to wait and trust to my own eyes. Soon the elephants began to feed, and we set off towards them without any fear of being heard, as when elephants are feeding they make such

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a noise that you could not hear a steam roller going past, and the only thing we had to take care of was to keep on the lee side of them as they have a very acute sense of smell. I now experienced the same difficulty as I had found before, that of not being able to find out which was the tusker. After stalking an elephant carefully I would find out it was only a female with a bacha, the next I would find to be only a young one and so on, and after hanging on the out-skirts of the herd for about two hours, my shikari suddenly seized me by the arm and exclaimed "combu, combu" which in his "bat" meant a "tusker, a tusker," and sure enough there was the gleam of white tusks through the bushes. I got my rifle to my shoulder and catching sight of the side of the beast's head, I fired at a point midway between his eye and his ear. His knees doubled up and he rolled over dead. But standing beside him was a large female who could not understand what was wrong with her companion and refused to leave him. My coolies coming up began to shout and throw stones, but that only made the elephant more angry until suddenly she caught sight of a man, who had foolishly gone too near, and straightway she charged him. I not wishing to have to pension off his widow, fired at her head. This stopped her, and made her shake her head, but then instantly she came straight down at me, I fired again at her as she came towards me, but the occasion must have been too much for my nerves, and I might as well have hurled a lump of butter at her for all the effect it had, and as she was only about twelve yards away from me, I thought discretion to be the better part of valour, and dived into the bushes and doubled round just in time to see the elephant in full pursuit of my shikari. He like a fool ran down a pathway in front of her, instead of going for the bushes. I suppose it was for much the same reason that makes a hen run wildly down a footpath in front of a bicycle when she could easily get to one side. Now my shikari was an old man, very thin and wizened, and there he was with his "dhotie" girt round his loins, and his two thin little black legs covering the ground as fast as they could, impelled along by the fear of death. Behind came the elephant, tail and trunk out straight, trumpeting and shrieking as if all the devils in hell were loose, smashing down any trees that came in her way, and making the ground shake as she charged along. She very soon overtook the unfortunate shikari and I quite expected to see a ghastly scene, but either the elephant was more frightened than the man, or else she thought he was beneath her notice, any how she only hit him with her trunk on the side of the head, spun him over into a thorn bush and passed on. The shikari picked himself up and felt himself all over to make sure he was really alive; I then went up to him and found he had only a few scratches from the thorn bush. We returned to the dead elephant but found the tusks were small and much broken. We reached camp that evening at half past eight, having had a very good day's exercise—at any rate the old shikari had had his fill of it.

A. D. W.

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A new township named after the Ninety-First.

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For some considerable time past (says a Johannesburg paper) the Argyll regiment has been camped on that portion of Hospital Hill which has been so well known as "Schutte's ground." Some little time ago this ground was purchased by a local syndicate, who proposed having it surveyed into residental lots and sold as an independent suburb. When this course was decided upon the owners addressed the following letter to the commanding officer:—

Officer Commanding, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Hospital Hill, Johannesburg.

Dear Sir,—As you may be aware, we have recently purchased from Mr. D. E. Schutte the two houses and grounds now occupied by the officers of your regiment as mess premises and quarters. As soon as the ground is vacated by your regiment, we propose to divide the same into stands, making a small township, and it has occurred to us that this will present a favourable opportunity for commemorating the stay of your regiment in our midst, if you and the officeres of your regiment will kindly acquiesce in the proposal to call the township 'Argyll,' and the street which will be laid down the middle of the township, 'Sutherland Avenue.' We shall be glad to be favoured with a reply at your earliest convenience.—We are &c.

To which the following was received:—

Sirs,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 9th inst., and beg to inform you that I am only too pleased to acquiesce to your proposal *re* name of new township and street. Thanking you for the honour you propose doing my regiment, and for the kindly spirit which prompted the same.—I am, sirs, yours faithfully,

(Sd.) Alec. Wilson, Lt.-Col.,
Commanding 1st A. and S. Highlanders.

——:o:——

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Regimental Tug of War Team.

Winners of Presidency Challenge Shield—1903.

ALLAN. NOBLE. CRAIG. JOHNSTONE. MCINNES. HALLIDAY.

SGT.-MAJ. DITCHAM. LIEUT. J. KENNEDY, ADJUTANT. SGT. CLASS.

MUNRO. DUNCAN.

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On duty with the Royal Company of Archers. King's Bodyguard for Scotland.

—o—

The Captain General having received His Majesty's commands that the Bodyguard should be in attendance during the recent state visit to Edinburgh, I duly received orders to report myself for drill at Edinburgh on the 6th May. Some 220 other Archers also mustered, and as there had been a large influx of new members the drills were for the purpose of initiating them into the mysteries of "carry bows," &c. On Saturday, the 9th, The Royal Company, headed by a Pipe Band, marched to Holyrood Palace, where the oath of fidelity was administered by Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Secretary of State for Scotland.

Monday saw the Archers (94 in number), who had been picked by the Captain General for duty within the Palace, being taught their duties for the Levée and Drawing-room.

Tuesday was the all-important day, when 46 others and myself, along with all our officers, mustered at the Palace at 10-30 A.M., taking up our positions in the Throne-room, picture gallery, &c. The special Guard in the Throne-room averaged in height 6 feet 2 inches, and the Standard bearers were Lords Aberdeen and Dalkeith. I myself, along with Archer Montgomery, was posted at the door leading from the picture gallery to the sheep pen, *en route* to the Throne-room. My duties were to get the gentlemen into single file, and I also had charge of the Archers on duty in the picture gallery. I had been made an Acting Lance-Corporal for the day. First promotion in 22 years—but then we are a very ancient Corps. A steady flow of aspirants to face their King followed for about an hour, when our duties ended, and for which the Lord Chamberlain's officers said we deserved much credit. The Archers then lunched at the Palace on the invitation of His Majesty. Among the gentlemen attending the Levée all hands considered that Lord Lovat was the best dressed Highlander, followed hard by Lochbuie, who was followed up in the line by his son-in-law Captain C. Maclean. The Duke of Atholl and the officers of his clan regiment made a brave show at the last.

Wednesday, the whole Corps was honoured by being inspected by His Majesty the King accompanied by Her Majesty. The Corps formed up at the Volunteer Drill Hall in Forrest Road, and having been told off, proceeded on its march *vid* the High Street, etc., to Holyrood. The inhabitants warmly cheered gallant John Archer, who wore his new headpiece, which I must say reminds one of a mixture of the crown of a feather bonnet and a French chef's white cap. We were commanded by Sir James Ferguson, Bart., whose Crimean words of command were quite suited to the ancient corps. Having formed line, the Corps received His Majesty with a Royal Salute, a complicate but pretty manœuvre, when well carried out. Then re-formed line, and His Majesty walked down the Ranks: after which the outer sections inwards, and His Majesty addressed His Ancient Bodyguard in most complimentary terms. Line was again re-formed, and headed by the Band the Corps marched off, proceeding to the Assembly rooms in George Street for dismissal. On passing the Port Office in Princes Street, a warm welcome was extended to the Corps by a vast concourse of people, many of whom saw the Archers for the first time.

Guest nights were the order during the King's visit and our new and enlarged Archers' Hall was the scene of much feasting. The toasts of the "Mark" (this is Orient, because when Archers fire at the Buttes, they never hit it), and the "King" were each night received with all honours.

Lieut. Sceales, Ninety-First, was also on duty at the Levée, and held a post of honour, over the death scene of Rizzio, but he will doubtless narrate his own adventures on sentry go, if properly asked.

I am,
Your obedient,
"A was the Archer who shot at a frog."

——: o :——

A Message.

—o—

So we left him there—just there,
There—where the mere cats play—
Where the sand blows white,
And the 'scrub' grows light,
There—to stay!

He was brighter, far—than we—
Kept us alive and fit,
He would laugh and chaff,
When on rations half,
Smiled—when hit.

Only a little scouting,
Killed in a 'sniper's show,'
We had turned to leave,
When he clutched my sleeve
Quick—just so!

Lifted him on my saddle,
Saw he was hit through side,
"You will look for Miss—"
Then he gave me—this
Ring—and died!

THE ADMIRAL.

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Boxing Tournament.

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A Boxing Tournament was held in the Dalhousie Institute, Calcutta, on 22nd September, by kind permission and under the patronage of Brigadier-General H. P. Leach, C.B., D S.O., Commanding Presidency District, and Lieut.-Colonel Stanley Paterson, Commanding 93rd Highlanders.

The members of the Dalhousie Institute very kindly allowed the Regiment the use of the Institute on the 22nd September. All the arrangements were carried out by a Regimental Committee and accommodation was provided for about 650 people.

The attendance was fair, but did not come up to expectation. The boxing proved highly interesting, and some capital contests took place. Being very spirited the combatants displayed pluck combined with good temper, which was much commented on by the spectators, I think it may be said with truth that the form showed as a whole was distinctly fine and in several cases highly scientific. The entertainment began at 7-30 and did not end till the small hours of morning. We strongly advise the noble art of the fence being encouraged throughout the British Army. It promotes all the best instincts of the soldier, when carried through legitimately. The writer well remembers a Private Patton in the Regiment some 18 years ago, who was a prize fighter, but he was a very quiet man in ordinary walk of life and was perhaps to look at one of the finest specimens of a man the writer has ever seen in the Battalion, and a grand fellow in a tight corner. The programme began with club swinging to music.

The heats of the feather weight, light weight and middle weight competitions then followed, in which some very spirited play took place.

The following is the result of the heats :—

Feather weights.—
Bannatyne beat Wilson.
Brash „ Scott.
Stephen „ Clark.
McArthur a bye.

Semi-final.
Brash beat Bannatyne.
Stephen beat McArthur.

Final.
Stephen beat Brash.

Light weights.—
Munro beat Graham.
Monteith „ Wilson.
McDonald, R. S. F., „ Milton.
Hunter a bye.

Semi-final.
Munro beat Hunter.
McDonald, R. S. F., „ Monteith.

Final.
McDonald, R. S. F., took the prize from Munro (retired sick).

Middle weights.—
Conway beat Johnson.
Corpl. Markey „ Broadfoot.

Final.
Corpl. Markey beat Conway.

The event of the evening was a ten-round contest between Privates McNiff and Gordon for a purse of money. So even was this contest that at the end of ten rounds the judge issued his decision that it was a draw, with the alternative of fighting another two rounds. This the two competitors sportingly agreed to, and at the end McNiff was declared the winner. All who witnessed it agreed as to its being one of the best contests ever seen in Calcutta. McNiff is a boxer of a very high order, cool and collected, and with marvellous power of self-defence and activity.

Gordon's display of the art was also excellent, his tremendous hitting power being combined with science; the thanks of us all are due to McNiff and Gordon for the great assistance they rendered to make the Tournament so much of a success.

The feather weight final was fought between Privates Brash and Stephen in which Stephen was declared the winner.

He is a neat little boxer and showed considerable science.

The light weight final lay between Private Macdonald, 21st R. S. Fusiliers, and Private Munro, 93rd Highlanders. Much regret was felt at Private Munro's absence owing to his being unwell, as he was unable to enter the lists for the final with McDonald, who was consequently judged the winner. This fight would have produced a good three rounds, as Munro is a severe punisher, and McDonald a skilful boxer.

The medium finals lay between Corporal Markey, who had come from Jalapahar to assist, and Private Conway. In this there was some merry sparring, and Corporal Markey was declared winner.

The ten-round contest between Private Brisland and Anstruther of the 'Grenadier' Company ended after two rounds in Private Anstruther retiring from the contest. It was to be regretted, as this should have been a well-matched fight. By the way it appears to us that Brisland is equally at home in the noble art of self-defence, the gymnasium, and on the boards in a tragic or comic part, he is a handy man!

The final contest was between Privates Lammie and Miller for a silver cup presented for competition by Messrs. Dewar & Co. of Scottish fame. We tender our united regimental thanks for the kind gift. Miller fought a very sporting losing fight, but Lammie annexed the trophy. This account would not be complete

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without recording a hearty vote of thanks to our friend Mr. Ernest Cowie for kindly consenting on two occasions to judge at our regimental boxing, and to Mr. Afflick for acting as time-keeper. As also to Colour-Sergeant Clarke and Sergeant Watt for the great assistance they rendered on the Committee. Mr. Cowie very kindly sent a donation to us for the object of the Tournament.

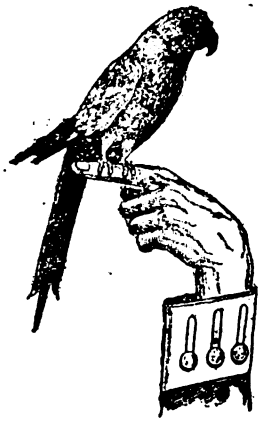
Mrs. Jasper of the Marlborough Hotel also very kindly sent a handsome donation. Ten men of the regimental band under Sergeant McLaughlan helped to enliven the evening and to bring the performance to a successful close. We record a hearty vote of thanks to all our other comrades who came sportingly forward as competitors, although they were not all successful as victors. Our advice is "never mind, try again." Floreat Ninety-Third, "Maun they are hardie Yins!"

ONE OF THE CORPS.

——: o :——

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—



[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT he wanted tae "fa oot" because he had a pain in his wind.

That his great granfaither wis sogerin along wi Julius Ceasar in the war against America.

That the man that prevented Church should be shot.

That he wis only a Second-Lieutenant-Colonel.

That the last time he wis on Fatigue, he wis absent.

That Blighty Johnnie could na see his face in the Butt plate.

That "Before touching the spring board, hae your inside right foot well forward, and before putting your han's on the cuddie see an hae your feet outside o' your legs."

That its cuisin at Jalapahar seems tae hae spent a' its time working oot a new receipt for a scone, which it gives free tae its less fortunate relations in Calcutta. It is this "Yin pun' floor, Yin pun' maize, three eggs (yin bad) Half a pun' potted heid, yin packet o' spice, some onions, a pice chillies, twa pice currants, suet, sugar and salt to taste, mix in a wash basin, bake for five minutes—Eat wi' marmalade, hot."

That teen battery's mechanical engineer wull fin' the cook in Poona.

That he fell doon the rifle, wi' the khud in his haun.

That a' his shots wis going ower the mantelpiece.

That he pit the dog intae bed, and kicked hisself oot o' the door.

That he went tae the butts wi' a quart o' beer in his haversack, an' some sandwiches in his bottle.

That oot o' three eggs tae his breakfast four wis bad.

——: o :——

Sergeants' Mess Notes.

—o—

Sergeant Laurie who went home on furlough at the beginning of this year has applied for and been granted a free discharge on completion of twelve years' service. We understand that Sergeant Laurie contemplates settling in Australia, but in what capacity we have not heard. The best wishes of the members of the Sergeants' Mess are extended to their old comrade for a successful colonial career.

* * * *

The lamented death of Donald Blair has removed an old and very popular figure from our midst, and one that will be much missed.

To a very large circle of old comrades and friends the news of his decease will come as a great shock, and the members of the Mess take this opportunity of offering to his relatives their sincere sympathy with them in their bereavement.

* * * *

Colour-Sergeant Gilmour who is now acting as an Instructor to the Indian Volunteers having been three months extra regimentally employed is placed on the supernumerary list of the Battalion. Sergeant McMaster, who has been officiating Pay Sergeant of "C" Company since Colour Sergeant Gilmour left, has been promoted to the vacant colours.

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Besides Colour-Sergeant McMaster's promotion there have been many more in the lower rings of the ladder. Lance-Sergeants Goddard, Memmott and Macdonald are promoted Sergeants, *vice* Laurie, Blair and McMaster respectively, and Corporals MacLauchlan, MacRae and Greenland are appointed Lance-Sergeants, *vice* the three new Sergeants.

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Sergeant-Major Ditcham, Quarter-Master Sergeant Weller, and Sergeant Sutherland took a short furlough to Jalapahar, and Colour-Sergeant Swan, who returned from a short furlough to Ranikhet about the end of August, is performing the duties of Acting Sergeant-Major.

* * * *

The attendance at the fortnightly dances has fallen off greatly during the past month, but that is to be expected, for the climate of Calcutta during the month of September is most trying and unsuitable for indulgence in the Terpsichorean art. Roll on Poona!

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Overheard at Malleny at the Midlothian Meeting:—Register Keeper: "I say, Bob, them Volunteers seem to carry a complete painter and decorator's shop with them!"

A difficult Order: Sergeant to Sentry; "Ye mauna stir a foot, but just walk up and doon and see what ye can hear."

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Athletics.

—o—

THE BOMBAY ROVERS' FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT.

(*From the 'Advocate of India'*).

SEAFORTHS *versus* NINETY-THIRD.

The meeting of the Seaforths, from Nusseerabad, and the 93rd, from Calcutta, in the sixth game of the above tournament, which took place on the Cooperage yesterday afternoon, before a large gathering of spectators, was looked forward to with keen interest, days before the event came off. This was solely due to the fact that the two opposing teams were Scotch, and had come to Bombay with a big reputation. The contest, however, was by no means out of the common, and during the first half proved somewhat dull. The Calcutta team were doing the most of the attacking, and within the first ten minutes scored the only two goals of the evening. Matters considerably brightened up in the second half, when the Seaforths gave a nice exhibition of themselves. They did a deal of pressing, and it was only the hardest luck that prevented them from scoring. However, it must be admitted that the better team won the match, and will, in all probability, annex the cup. Punctually at 4-55 P.M. the 93rd and the Seaforths walked on the field. The latter, who were guarding the Colaba goal, were the first to put the ball in motion, and opened promisingly. Passing one to the other, they gradually worked the leather into their advarsaries' quarter, when their centre forward attempted a goal. The shot was a feeble one, and Coventry, picking it up, cleared easily. The 93rd forwards then, securing the ball, transferred the venue to the other end, but before they could do anything, the sphere went behind the line, a goal-kick resulting. Shorty after, they came on again, and endeavoured to score with long distance shots. This failing them, they changed their tactics, and went in for passing at close quarters, and completely outmanœuvred their opponents. Finding an opening, Quinn, their centre forward, beat Fairbain, and scored the first goal for his side just five minutes after the start.

On the game being resumed the 93rd set to work immediately, and, before the Seaforths knew where they were, Hogg, the outside left, scored the second goal for his side. Shortly after, the Seaforths were awarded a "free" at midfield, but they failed to benefit by it. While play was being carried on here, the Nusseerabad team made a couple of ineffectual rushes to get past the 93rd backs, but the latter offered a stout resistance. With the exception of occasional dashes away, the Seaforths were, for the first twenty minntes, confined to their own country, and kept constantly on the defence. At length, they managed to repel their opponents, and their outer right, being passed the ball, dribbled it deep down the touch line and then centred it in capital style, when a scrimmage ensued before the Calcutta net. It was only the hardest luck that robbed the Seaforths of scoring. They, however, made strenuous efforts to beat Coventry. In spite of their judicious placing and good shooting they were unable to enter their adversaries' citadel. This was in a great measure due to the splendid resistance which the 93rd backs offered. Half-time arrived with the 93rd leading by two goals to *nil*.

After the usual interval, the teams crossed over, and the 93rd, immediately taking up the attack, made their opponents concede them a corner. Before danger could be signalled the outside left of the 93rd was penalised for a foul. The "free" that followed was intercepted, and while the ball was being brought back again one of the Calcutta men was badly tripped up. The usual penalty kick was allowed. After this, the Seaforths tried hard to equalise and were getting much work on the ball. Frequently they gave the 93rd backs an anxious time of it. However, it appeared that they were doomed not to score. If they had only played half as well in the first half as they were now doing, the game probably would have ended more favourably for them. The 93rd eventually relieved pressure, and kept their opponents well in check, as a result of which no further scoring took place, and the game resulted in a win for the 93rd, as stated above, by two goals to *nil*.

Seaforth Highlanders.—Goal: Pte. Fairbain; *backs:* Pte. Macpherson and Lce.-Corpl. Stephens; *half-backs:* Ptes. Rennie, Galbraith and Leys; *forwards:* Lieut. Buchanan, Ptes. McNamara and Duncan, Lce.-Corpl. Mannock and Pte. Drummond.

93rd Highlanders.—Goal: Pte. Coventry; *backs:* Pte. Wallace and Corpl. Silcock; *half-backs:* Corpl. McLean, Ptes. McGowan and Mowat; *forwards:* Ptes. Pollock, Lockhart, Quinn, McGowan and Hogg.

BOMBAY ROVERS *versus* NINETY-THIRD.

The unexpected happened yesterday afternoon, when the Bombay Rovers met the 93rd Highlanders, from Calcutta, on the Cooperage, in the last game of the semi-finals, and beat them by one goal to *nil*. The victory was a very popular one, and the Rovers deserve great credit for the manner in which they fought their opponents. That the Highlanders were the better team, and did most of the attacking none can deny. The Rovers, however, played up well against them, and Phillips, at goal, and "Snowball," all about the field, rendered most valuable services to their side, while Tyler was conspicuous for some brilliant sprints down the wing. One regrettable feature was that the Highlanders received little or no support from the enormous gathering which turned out, despite the manly game they played. It was only the hardest luck that did not see them leave the field victors. However, better luck to them next time.

At five minutes to five, the 93rd, facing the Bandstand goal, put the ball into play, and, immediately taking up the attack, Phillips was called upon to clear. Tyler then rushed the ball down the touch line. He was, in no time, pulled up, and the visitors attacked again. After a couple of ineffectual attempts to score, they were driven back, and were forced to concede a corner to the Rovers. The leather was beautifully centred, but before the Rovers could do anything a foul was declared against them, the Highlanders thus obtaining a "free." This carried the Highlanders right to the other end. Unfortunately, just as matters were looking rosy for them, one of their forwards was pulled up for an infringement of the off-side rule. The "free" that followed was intercepted. The visitors invaded again, when Phillips had to fist out. Shortly after, the Bombay forwards made a combined run down the field. Passing their opponents' backs, a warm shot was directed at Coventry's goal, which he just managed to avert. A brief spell of up-and-down play was then witnessed. Eventually the Calcutta representatives, finding an opening, carried all before them in capital style. In quick succession Phillips was called upon to kick out two nasty ones. He did this, but at the expense of a corner. The kick-in was badly judged. After the Rovers had their goal kick, play was located at midfield for some time. Then each team got away in turn. Two long distance shots were aimed at the Highlanders' custodian, both of which he cleared neatly. At length, the front rank of the military team forced matters considerably and kept

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up these tactics till the call of time. It was only the sound defence of the Rovers at this stage of the contest that saved them the match.

On the opening of the second half, the 93rd were the first to assume the aggressive. Five minutes after the re-start they were penalised for a foul, which gave their opponents a "free." Another one soon after followed, for Screivener being badly tripped while in the Highland country. Although allowed these concessions, the Rovers could not turn them to any material advantage. A "free" against them saw the Highlanders making strenuous efforts to beat back their opponents' backs. Eventually they did this, but Phillips rushed out in time to frustrate their hope. At this juncture the visitors were doing the lion's share of the attacking, and trying hard to find the net. The Rovers, however, stood their ground. Eventually they broke away, and Spilling passing the ball to Rodwell, the latter beat Coventry amid wild enthusiasm. Eight minutes were left to play. During this period the Highlanders kept up one long attack. Phillips' goal was bombarded frequently, but he saved admirably. The Rovers were called on by the spectators to clear out. They did this once or twice, but had to soon return to guard their citadel. The excitement was intense just now, and it looked as if the visitors would score. The whistle, however, blew, and the Highlanders, who had played a fine game, had to leave the field vanquished by one goal to *nil*.

The following were the teams:—

Bombay Rovers.—Goal: Phillips; *backs:* McLachlan and Scrafton; *half-backs:* Stapleton, Chatt and Spilling; *forwards:* Tyler, Moon, Rodwell, Billiter and Screivener.

93rd Highlanders.—Goal: Pte. Coventry; *backs:* Pte. Wallace and Corpl. Silcock; *half-backs:* Corpl. Kelly, Ptes. McGowan and Mowat; *forwards:* Ptes. Pollock, Lockhart, Quinn, Lapsley and Hogg.

Appended are the results of the Tournament:—

The Buffs	Rovers 3-0.	Rover 1-0.	Scots 2-1.	Cheshires 3-0.
Bo. Rovers				
Seaforth Highlanders ...	93rd 2-0.			
93rd Highlanders ...				
Bo. Gymkhana ...	Gym. 2-1.	Scots 7-0.		
Y. M. C. A.				
R. F. A., Kirkee ...	Scots 3-1.			
Royal Scots				
Cheshires	Bye.	Cheshires 2-0.	Cheshires 4-2.	
North Staffords ...	Staffords. 0-0; 3-0.			
Lincolns				
R. G. A., Colaba ...	York and Lancs. 0-0; 6-1.	Warwicks 3-2.		
York and Lancaster ...				
Warwicks	Warwicks 0-0; 2-1.			
West Yorks				

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Notes on Fort William.

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The fort was designed by a Captain Bohier of the East India Company Service and was commenced in 1757, immediately after the "Black Hole" episode. The plan is a polygon of 7 sides, and there are six gates. In 1766, what is now known as "Chowringhee" Gate was called the "Royal Gate," otherwise the names of the gates have remained the same. The native names of the gates are as follows:—

Calcutta —Same.

Plassey —"Lal Darwarza" possibly because it leads to a tank in Dalhousie Square known as the "Lal Digee."

Chowringhee—Same.

Treasury —"Pias Darwarza" or Thirsty Gate, because in former years the drinking water tanks or reservoirs were near this gate.

St. George's —"Coolie Darwarza" because it leads to the far-famed Coolie Bazar, Hastings.

Water Gate —"Pani Darwarza."

What is now the "maidan" was formerly a salt marsh which in the early days of settlement in Calcutta afforded good sport to buffalo hunters.

During the building of the fort the great famine of 1770 took place and great difficulty was experienced in feeding the vast number of workmen engaged. Between July 15th, and September 4th, of that year, 76,000 natives perished of starvation in the streets of Calcutta, and it is reckoned that no less than two millions of people, of whom two thousand were Europeans, died during this terrible famine.

The Garrison Church—St. Peter's—was built in 1785, the design being taken from Trinity Hall College Chapel. The building now known as the Outram Institute was formerly the residence of the Governor-General of India, and remained as such until 1803 when the present Government House was completed. During the sepoy mutiny of 1857-58 this building was used as the residence of the king of Oude.

The low building used by the band of the native regiment in St. George's Ravelin, just beyond the 2nd Gate, was used as a prison for the French captured during the wars of the latter part of the eighteenth and early part of the nineteenth centuries.

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The Boer War.

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Notes from my Diary.

By No. 6547, Private John Macdonald.

(*Continued from page 75*).

Owing to Col. Mahon's force being unable to come up from the eastwards, the Boers were able to make good their escape. We had very few casualties, but the Berkshires lost heavily. Several Boer prisoners and their transport and a machine gun fell into our hands. We afterwards learnt that the force we had been fighting against was chiefly composed of the Irish Brigade under Col. Blake. On the following morning we marched to a village called Reitfontein and there learnt that the enemy were holding the "nek," through which we had to pass; however, they apparently thought better of it and retired. The country through which we were now passing was nothing else but a large series of orchards, cultivated by Scotch and English farmers. On the morning of the 6th we continued our march to Rustenburg. While we were halted at this place, Baden-Powell, who was holding a position about twenty miles on our right front, paid us a visit, and afterwards we learnt that his force was to join ours. On the 10th August we learnt of the surrender of Prinsloo, with 4,000 men in the Orange Free State, and also that De Wet had managed to break through the cordon and was heading northwards, with the intention of joining Botha. On the 16th we got into touch with Lord Methuen's force, who had made a wide detour to the north, in order to stop De Wet from joining Botha; however, much to our disgust, we saw the enemy retiring through the nek, which we had supposed was being held by Baden-Powell; however, we had nothing else to do but to follow them up, and came into touch with them at Murgatos Pass, where our guns and pom-poms opened fire; however, the enemy did not wait, but buried three of their guns and retreated. We continued to follow up the enemy, and every mile on the road we came across wagons, which had been left by De Wet. We also found that De Wet had burnt most of the farms and crops. The regiment then received orders to escort a number of empty wagons to Makpan. On the march we came into contact with De Wet's force, but the enemy were so mystified by our formation, that they apparently suspected a trap. The General was so pleased with our work during the last few days that he allowed our C. O. Major Urmston to join the Brigade at his own discretion. On the 24th August we marched to Rhenoster Drift and there made a capture of about 4,000 sheep, but as they had been driven all over the country by the Boers, they were not exactly excellent eating. Waterval was our next destination and as this had been the place where our prisoners had been kept, before our occupation of Pretoria, I will try and describe it. The whole enclosure is about 300 yards long by 150 broad. Round the camp there are three lines of barbed wire, the posts on the outside being about four feet, and the centre ones about six feet high. Seven rows of wire run round the centre and five round the inside and outside, the wires also run diagonally amongst the posts. There is also a store where the prisoners were able to buy, provided they had the money. We were hoping that on our arrival in Pretoria we should have a good rest, but we were again disappointed, and like the half rations, we were getting accustomed to it. We only got two days rest, when we were ordered off eastwards, marching over the same roads that we had passed over in July. The K. O. S. B's left us at Balmoral and took train to Belfast. After several days marching we arrived at Belfast on the 8th September and encamped close to the Railway station. At Belfast we left the Berkshires behind and took on the Irish Fusiliers, and on the 11th September arrived at Machadodorp, the place where Kruger stayed after leaving Pretoria, his seat of Government being a Railway carriage with an engine attached, with steam up. We left the Fusiliers here and were now the only regiment of the Brigade left on the march. We marched to Waterval Onder and here the regiment entrained for Nelspruit, but the company to which I belonged had to march it and the general opinion was that not much would be left of the company, as we had to march through a narrow valley with high hills on both sides. However, our luck did not desert us and we managed to get through quite safely.

(*To be continued*).

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A writer to a Scottish paper vouches for the veracity of the following unique Irishisms:—

I was lecturing an Irishman once for not having paid his rent. With eyes cast down he solemnly gazed at my brown boots, and suddenly looking up, with a smile that was child-like and bland, "I beg your honour's pardon, but have you them boots on inside out?

Another tenant, of the female persuasion, wanted her rent reduced because she had twelve children. "But, my good woman, whose fault is that?" "Oh," she replied, "I don't blame your honour for it."

At Killarney, one of the district councillors proposed to put a lot of gondolas on the lakes as an attraction to tourists. Up sprang a councillor and moved an amendment—that instead of buying a lot they should buy a healthy male and female, and breed from them.

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Royal Army Temperance Association.

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Since my last report to the "Thin Yin," I am glad to say we have been going along fairly well. We are having monthly Card Competitions which seem to be a great attraction, also Gramaphone Selections occasionally by Pte. MacDonald. The Bar Fund is in a very healthy condition, at present being Rs. 1,869-11-6 in credit. We have also resumed the Guard's suppers again, which I am sure will add to our membership. The election for the Association medal which took place last month in the R. A T. A. Room was almost unanimously awarded to Pte. Rodwell.

The office bearers for the present term are as follows:—

Pte. Laird,	President.
„ Thomas,	Vice-President.
Corpl. Gifford,	Secretary.
„ Stewart,	Finance Committee.
Pte. Dickson,	„
„ McMillan,	„
„ Rodwell, Barman	„
Bandsman Dunlop,	Band Committeeman.
Pte. Gibson, "A" Coy.,	Committeeman.
Corpl. Risdon, "B" „	„
Lce.-Corpl. Downs, "C" Coy.,	„
„ Hutchinson, "D" Coy.,	„
Pte. Scrymgeour, "E" Coy.,	„
„ McCreath, "F" „	„
„ Gibbons, "G" „	„
„ Blackley, "H" „	„

As we are about to move to a new station our Branch gave a farewell Tea and Concert on the 9th September, and we invited the R. A. T. A. members of the 79th Company, R. G. A., and also the married people, but only a few of the latter came to the Tea. The Tea commenced at 5 P.M. and I think everyone did ample justice to it and was quite satisfied. The Concert which took place in the Regimental Theatre commenced at 9-30 P.M. Major Mackenzie, M. V. O., kindly consented to preside, and during the evening, he gave some sound advice to members and non-members and urged the latter to join our ranks at once and partake of the many privileges the R. A. T. A. offers. There were encores given during the evening as will be seen by the programme given below. Both Tea and Concert proved a great success, everything going smoothly, and great credit is due to the Secretary, Corpl. Gifford, and the President, Pte. Laird, also to the Committee for the most able manner in which they did their work. We have also to thank Mr. Afflick for playing the piano for us. During the Concert, refreshments were handed round to all visitors and friends present. The Chairman in his concluding remarks, thanked the various Committees for the way they had combined to make the Concert such a success, and on the call from the President, Pte. Laird, a hearty vote of thanks was given to Major Mackenzie for his kindness in occupying the chair during the Concert.

G. T. R.

Programme.

PART I.

1.	OVERTURE	*Band.*
2.	SONG, (Comic)	*Bdsm. Reynolds.*
	Encore.	
3.	CLUB SWINGING ...	*Ptes. Harper, Grant and Green.*
4.	SONG (Comic)	*Pte. Brisland.*
	Encore.	
5.	HIGHLAND FLING ...	*Sergt.-Piper Lynch.*
6.	SONG	*Pte. Dawson.*
7.	RECITATION	*Mr. Owen (Crimea and India Mutiny Veteran).*
	Encore.	
8.	GRAMAPHONE SELECTIONS ...	*Pte. McDonald.*
9.	SONG	*Pte. McCreath.*
10.	SONG	*Pte. Thompson.*

PART II.

1.	OVERTURE	*Band.*
2.	SONG	*Pte. Maclay.*
3.	SONG	*Pte. Ellis.*
4.	VIOLIN DUET	*Ptes. Dinwoodie and McKim.*
	Encore.	
5.	SONG (Comic)	*Pte. Brisland.*
	Encore.	
6.	CLUB SWINGING ...	*Pte. Harper.*
7.	SONG	*Sergt. Memmott.*
8.	RECITATION	*Bombdr. Paris.*
9.	SWORD DANCE	*Sergt.-Piper Lynch.*
10.	SONG	*Pte. Wright.*

GOD SAVE THE KING.

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THE TROOPING PROGRAMME.

The following shows the programme for the Trooping Season of 1903-4:—

Name of Boat	Leaves England	Arrives Bombay	Leaves Bombay	Arrives England
Soudan	9-9-03	2-10-03	14-10-03	11-11-03
Plassey	23-9-03	15-10-03	24-10-03	16-11-03
Sicilia	3-10-03	26-10-03	4-11-03	26-11-03
Assaye	14-10-03	5-11-03	13-11-03	5-12-03
Soudan	21-11-03	14-12-03	23-12-03	14-1-04
Plassey	28-11-03	21-12-03	1-1-04	23-1-04
Sicilia	9-12-03	31-12-03	8-1-04	30-1-04
Assaye*	23-12-03	5-2-04	16-2-04	9-3-04
Soudan	28-1-04	19-2-04	26-2-04	24-3-04
Plassey	5-2-04	27-2-04	8-3-04	30-3-04
Sicilia	11-2-04	28-3-04	7-4-04	29-4-04

* *Vid* Cape and Mauritius.

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"The Life of a Regiment."

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Lieutenant-Colonel Gardyne in the 2nd Volume of his "Life of a Regiment," the History of the Gordon Highlanders from 1816 to 1898, tells some amusing anecdotes of old time warriors of the Gordons.

While stationed at Glasgow along with the Scots Greys in the year 1845, the officers received a great deal of hospitality from the magnates of that city.

On one occasion Major Lockhart was the guest of a wealthy bachelor of the old school. When dinner was announced the Major modestly gave way to his elders. "Na, na," cried the host, "step awa', Major—Warriors before Weavers!"

Old Duncan Smith, a native of the Black Isle, and a noted piper in his day, is the pawky hero of several anecdotes in the earlier part of last century.

The first time the battalion marched out for exercise, the drummers and fifers of all the depôts played together at the head of the column, but the Gordons, who were the rear company, were marching to the strains of Duncan's pipes. The Colonel naturally thought the piper should also be at the head of the column, and ordered accordingly, desiring him to play up, but Duncan could not bear the idea of playing to soldiers in chaos. "She's nae mair wind," he replied, with a respectful salute, but a twinkle in his cunning old eye. Presently the notes of "Gillean an fheile" were heard from the rear; again he was ordered to the front. With an innocent look he again excused himself by. "She had nae mair wind." The Colonel gave it up, and never asked the piper again to play away from the bonnets.

Another story is told of him.

When asked how he felt at Waterloo—"Och! shust plaw awa', no gie a d——whether she'll be shot or no'."

On another occasion, when Duncan had to give evidence at some trial, the lawyer who was badgering him asked if he had fought at Waterloo?

"Hoo cud I be fechtin' when I was plawing the pipes a' the time? It was mair wind than wark wi' me, like a lawyer."

On the question of recruiting and entering the army as a profession Colonel Gardyne considers, with the better pay, and the chances of promotion, Highlanders will join as readily as they did before the great famine. For the spirit of enterprise and of loyal sentiment has always animated the Highlanders, and the army is the natural outlet for such a disposition. He approves of the youthful recruit, considering that a lad of eighteen will more readily accept training than the man of twenty-two and upwards, for he says, "the impatience of discipline—even of parental discipline—a feature of our time, is more easily overcome at the former than at the latter age." The time that once considered the life of a soldier the worst for his morals is past or is rapidly passing. Such experiences as the following which are no longer possible, would account for a good deal of the lawless feeling among soldiers which offended the peace-loving civilians. One young man, on wishing to enlist, was found, on being measured, not to touch the standard.

"Go home, my lad," said the Colonel "take more milk to your brose and come back when you've grown." "Oh, sirs," entreated the lad, "an ye'd juist tak' me! I'm wee, but I'm wicked!"

The other is of grimmer significance. It is taken from a letter in the possession of Campbell of Dunstaffnage, written by a Mull laird to his cousin, who was raising men for a commission:—

I send a recruit who will, I think, make up your number. As he is a very obstreperous man, he is tied in a cart, and you will please give the carter 5s., and 2s. 6d. for the rope if you do not return it, as it is new.

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The Military Man.

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It is a growing fashion for journalists to drop in the word "Military" when hard up for an adjective in describing anything, no matter what. Goodness knows what it means, but there it is. "Prisoner had a military air," "the bridegroom wore a distinctly military collar," and so on. A tame idiot has kindly let himself go on the subject for the benefit of the cause, as we get this:—

A military man had a military look.
His military stick had a military crook.
He had military manners and military feet,
Used military language of military heat,
Put military side on military airs,
Gave military glances and military stares,
Loved military weallys and military "haws,"
Trained military whiskers with military paws.
His military bearing, his military walk,
His military doings made military talk.
Took military footsteps with military swing.
On military fingers a military ring.
Liked military music by military bands.
Backed military horses on military stands.
His military learning had military grit.
His military brains made military wit.
One military day in military June.
His military voice with military tune.
Made military noise on military stairs.
Such military noise—such military swears.
Not military hymns, nor military prayers.
His military senior with military haste.
Made military report with military taste.
And military man of military pluck.
Got military boot, military "chuck."

"Military Mail."

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A use for the Dead.

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All the three of them—Ethel, Maud, and Doris—were spending Christmas week with the Grimshaws of the Oxenside Grange, Yorkshire. Fine muscular young Christians as they were, with strong, agile limbs and fresh, healthy faces they were congratulating themselves on their release from the conventionalities of London Society, and looking forward to the athletic advantages afforded by their visit with no small amount of pleasure. Consequently, when on arrival they discovered that a dinner party was announced for the first evening, it was voted by one and all a horrid bore.

"Dinners, dinners, dinners—everlastingly dinners Surely we get enough in town without having them stuffed down our throats here," and Ethel threw herself into a chair with a sigh of unlimited disgust.

"But remember, dear," said Maud, who always liked to be kind to every one, "we are not the only guests."

"And I suppose we *can* eat here," put in Doris, who being the youngest of the three, was the most practical.

This remark was the signal for a general burst of laughter, and the troubled waters being somewhat smoothed, dressing operations were commenced without further ado. Only a few minutes had gone by, when Maud began to look perplexed. She rummaged here and rummaged there, she turned her box upside down, but apparently in vain, and at length had to give up the search.

"Girls," she said in tones of despair, "I've forgotten my tooth powder."

Ethel and Doris both looked aghast. This was terrible! What was to be done? It was no good offering Maud their powder, because she never *would* use anything but charcoal, and they couldn't bear the beastly stuff. They were saved any further speculation however by their sister, who had just picked a prettily-chased vase off the mantel-piece.

"What luck!" she said, "there's some in here. Really it's awfully thoughtful of Mrs. Grimshaw," and there was no further hitch in the proceedings.

The dinner wasn't so bad after all; in fact the girls began to think that they had been passing judgment rather too hastily, for every one was *so* nice and agreeable. Conversation flowed freely on all topics, from the latest thing in hats to the village parson's last sermon; and at last a stout gentleman, with a clean cut, jolly face—in fact a typical Yorkshire farmer—mentioned the subject of cremation. This was fatal for the success of the dinner, for Mrs. Grimshaw, entirely ignoring the fact that her remarks were hardly conducive to the consumption of apple-pie and custard, at once went into ecstacies over her pet hobby, and proceeded forthwith to explain the whole process for the benefit or otherwise of the company. All the little details as to how the body was burned, and the ashes then carefully preserved in selected jars, were rapturously described.

"In fact," the worthy woman was concluding, "I have a vase upstairs on the mantel-piece of the blue room——"

"Oh, yes!" broke in Maud, "and a very pretty one it is too. I took the liberty to use some of the charcoal in it to brush my teeth with."

"Char-r-r-coal! spluttered Mrs. Grimshaw, "Ch-ch-ch-arcoal! why, its ma!!" and with a scream of horror she fainted.

Ethel and Doris looked at Maud, and Maud looked at Ethel and Doris, and then—would you believe it—those horrid girls actually laughed.—*The Yellow Plume.*

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Home and Depot Notes.

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Major R. L'E McKerrell has been appointed to the post of Assistant Inspector of Gymnasia at Aldershot and takes up the duties of his post immediately. Major McKerrell joined the Ninety-First during the war in South Africa from India, on completing his tenure of appointment as Superintendent of Gymnasia in the Punjab and Bengal, which post he held from 1896 to 1901. We wish him every success in his new sphere.

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The Ninety-First under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson were recently inspected at Longmoor camp by Lieutenant-General Sir John French, K.C B, commanding 1st Army Corps. The Battalion stood 900 strong on parade—a very creditable muster indeed, in these days of depleted Home Battalions.

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The Ninety-First have entered for the Senior Aldershot Cup, so we expect to hear stirring reports of their successes in the football field during the incoming season. They carry the best wishes of the Ninety-Third for the very best of luck.

* * * *

In the account of the Rothesay Highland Games, to hand by the last mail, we notice the names of two former Pipe-Majors of the Ninety-Third amongst the list of prize-winners. In the marches Pipe-Major William Robb took "2nd," and Pipe-Major A. Ferguson "3rd."

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Letters to the Editor.

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Argyll and Sutherland Soldiers' Home.

To the Editor of The Thin Red Line.

Dear Sir,—In the June issue of your paper I observe that under the "Home and Depôt Notes" you say, *re* the A. & S. H. Soldiers' Home, Stirling, "a Report was read showing that the Home has in a large measure fulfilled the objects for which it was instituted. The total receipts for the year ending 28th February are £221 7*s.* 3*d.* and the credit balance is £11 6*s.* 2*d.* which is satisfactory, and shows an extensive patronage."

The actual facts are these. The "receipts" are simply the Subscriptions, and Donations, paid or promised when the Home was first proposed; the takings at the Bar being, according to those who should know, of the most meagre description. As to the "extensive patronage." A visitor to this neighbourhood last December called at the Home, and was informed by those in charge that from March to November inclusive, the attendances had numbered 500. Add 50 to this, and dividing the 550 over the 275 nights, you have an average attendance of 2 men per diem!

I personally can vouch for the generally dull and unattractive appearance of the place as I visited it just last week, also for the fact that there are no meetings of any kind held in it, either by the Superintendant or outsiders, no Teas or Temperance talks, either indoors or in the garden, no outdoor games, though there is a Bowling green, and no "Savings Bank" in connection with it, a most necessary part of all such institutions.

Finally I hear, on what most of your readers would consider the best authority, (were I at liberty to give names) that the Home is at present patronized only by the few men of the Army Pay Corps who are employed in Stirling, "none of our lads"—in my informant's words, "going there." I enclose my card, with names thereon, of some whom I know in your Battalion, not exactly as a "guarantee of respectability" but as a proof of my right to know something of the subject on which I have ventured to address you, and remain, yours very truly,

Charlotte G. C. McInroy.

27th August.

Royal Company of Archers.

To the Editor of The "Thin Red Line."

Dear Sir,—I enclose an account of the doings of the King's Bodyguard of Scotland during the state visit. It may possibly interest Archer A. F. MacKenzie, whose genial presence was much missed by his other comrades of the old 93rd.

As great nerve is required for shooting accurately with a bow, he might begin by trying his hand at "Koochnays" and afterwards at "Stripes." He could then draw a "long Bow" at a venture with some ease.

Bardowie Castle, N.B., Yours truly,
1st September 1903. A. H. Middleton,
Archer, R. C. A.,
King's Bodyguard for Scotland.

Commander-in-Chief at Stirling.

The Editor, The "Thin Red Line."

Dear Sir,—I send you a short account of the visit of the Commander-in-Chief to Stirling.

Friday, 14th August, was just as hopelessly wet a day as can be imagined.

This was particularly unfortunate as it was the day fixed by the Commander-in-Chief to pay his visit of inspection to Stirling. In spite of the unfavourable conditions of weather, Lord Roberts, accompanied by Gen. Hunter, commanding the Scottish District, Genl. Ian Hamilton, Quarter-Master-General, and a numerous staff, arrived at Stirling station at 1 o'clock, and there received an address from Provost Thompson who spoke on behalf of the town. Lord Roberts made a short speech in reply, got into a carriage and drove to the Castle. All the adjutants of Militia and Volunteers in the District were present, so we made quite an imposing show of officers.

We were all presented individually to Lord Roberts who chatted pleasantly while we showed him our curiosities in the anteroom, and then lunch was served. This meal had to be taken with our loins girt etc., as we had only 20 minutes before parade. Owing to the persistent rain our small army paraded in the Gymnasium. It felt curious being in command of a company numbering 11 dutymen and 11 recruits, and such newly joined recruits that although they carried rifles we did not venture to make them "present arms" even to the C.-in-C.!!

I thought of "H" Company standing over 100 strong last time we saw Lord Roberts (at Umballa).

The Commander-in-Chief walked round our ranks and afterwards presented medals to two men of the Ninety-First. Then we were dismissed and went to our barrack rooms.

Col. Hunt, Commanding the District, with one of the Castle Guides piloted Lord Roberts round the Castle and explained the innumerable points of interest in the old building. Lord Roberts visited some of the barrack room canteens, recreation rooms, etc., and as his time was limited left the Castle shortly after 3 P.M., visiting, on his way to the station, the Soldiers' Home and the Hospital.

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Genl. Hunter assisted by the members of his staff held the annual inspection the same day and the books were carefully gone through and everything happily found up to date and correct. Now for a little general news. We have seen Colonel Campbell frequently as he has now settled down at his beautiful place Inverardoch which is only some 15 miles from Stirling. He is looking very well, much better than when I last saw him eight months ago in Calcutta. Capt. Richardson, Capt. McNeill, Capt. Maclean and Capt. Gunn were here on the day of the Commander-in-Chief's visit. Many in the 93rd will remember all of them. By the bye I see in my letter to you about the King's visit to Edinburgh that you say we were next the "Cameroniana." It should be "Cameron Highlanders," whether this is my mistake or your proof reader's I don't know, but for heaven's sake correct it, as it has nearly led to a blood feud, and I have to go about armed.

To-day we said goodbye to Mr. McPherson who has left the service, and is turning his claymore into a ploughshare, as he intends to go in for farming, at least he is not certain whether he is going to farm or go on the Stock Exchange. The two callings appear to me as far apart as the poles, but here's wishing him good luck in which ever one he settles on.

We hear that Lieut. Thomson is to succeed him here. If he is still with you please hurry him home, as we want another hand badly.

The shooting season is on.

The above sentence has nothing to do with the preceding one, unless you choose to make it so.

I hope you are all fit and well, and that you will find Poona as pleasant a place as reports say it is. Just as well sample Bombay side, we have tried all the others except Madras and there's time for that yet. Adieu.

Stirling Castle. W. TWEEDIE.

—: o :—

Lady Curzon, it is said, makes a point of collecting any amusing attempts made by Hindoos to write English that comes under her notice, and has many ludicrous specimens in her scrap-book. Recently she obtained from Bombay a letter that two brothers sent out to their patrons on the death of their father, who had been the head of the firm. The letter ran:—"Gentlemen, we have the pleasure to inform you that our respected father departed this life on the 10th instant. His business will be conducted by his beloved sons, whose names are given below. The opium market is quiet and Mal. 1,500 rupees per chest. O death where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory? We remain, etc."

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A Military Family of a Warlike Clan.

—o—

The following record of the service of the family of Mr. W. W. Cameron, who is at present alive and well in Aberdeen, has been sent to us, and will be of interest to our readers. It will be seen that for 130 years, since the year 1773, the Cameron family have served their country faithfully:—

No.	Rank.	Name.	Regiment.	Relationship.	Service.
1	Private ...	William Cameron	78th Highlanders	Great Grand Father	Joined the Regiment at its formation. India, Battle of "Assaye." Italy, Battle of "Maida." America. Killed in action at Ticonderoga.
2	Private ...	John Cameron ...	42nd Highlanders	Great Grand Uncle	
3	Private ...	William Cameron	72nd Highlanders; 91st Highlanders.	Grand Father ...	Joined 72nd Highlanders, 1808; 91st Highlanders, 1811; Holland, Siege of Burgom op Zoom; Peninsula, Battles "Nive," "Orthes," "Toulouse," "Waterloo," Siege of Cambra. (Two years' service for Waterloo).
4	Trumpet-Major ...	Alexander Cameron	91st Highlanders; 8th Hussars; Cape Mounted Rifles.	Grand Uncle ...	Holland, Siege of Burgom op Zoom; Peninsula, Battles of "Nive," "Nivell," "Orthes," "Toulouse," "Waterloo," Siege of Cambra; Cape of Good Hope; Kaffir War, 1846 and 7. (Two years' service for Waterloo).
5	Colour-Sergeant...	William Cameron	90th Foot; 91st Highlanders.	Father ...	Joined the 90th Perthshire Light Infantry, 1837; 91st Highlanders, 1862; Cape of Good Hope; Kaffir War of 1846 and 7; Kaffir War of 1851, 2, and 3 (Kaffir War of 1877 and 8, as Captain in Pulleine's Rangers; a corps raised by the Imperial Government for the war). Discharged by purchase.
6	Private ...	Robert Owen Cameron.	90th Foot ...	Uncle ...	
7	Private ...	Alexander Cameron	2nd Battalion, 60th Rifles.	Uncle ...	Canada.
8	Lance-Sergeant, (Pipe-Major from 1863 till 1869).	William W. Cameron.	91st Highlanders.	Self ...	Joined 91st Highlanders, 1854; Cape of Good Hope; Ionian Islands; India; Central Indian Field Force, 1858 and 9; Kaffir War, 1851, 2, and 3. Attached to Regimental Medical Staff of same Regiment.
9	Lance-Corporal ...	William Cameron	79th or Cameron Highlanders.	Son ...	Now Serving, Inverness, Gibraltar, Crete.

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Fashions.

—o—

Why do we wear two buttons on the back of all coats with tails, such as morning coats, frock coats, dress coats, and so on? Whatever the views of the common-sense civilian reader may be, he in whose blood is something of the martial spirit of his forefathers may possibly feel flattered to know that these buttons are there for no other purpose than—to rest his sword-belt upon! The City man in his frock coat and silk hat may like to know this. The custom is two centuries old, and, as has been suggested, simply exists now because during all these years we have simply forgotten to drop it. In the good old days our ancestors, of course, always used to carry swords about with them wherever they went, and these buttons were affixed to their garments upon which to rest the sword-belt so as to keep it from slipping down. If a man did not carry a sword, and made no provision for carrying one, he might run the risk of not being considered a gentleman. Therefore the buttons could never be omitted in those days, and this fear might explain to some extent the hesitation in discontinuing the custom, quite ridiculous, though universal, as it now is.

Why do men wear spats? Opinion is by no means unanimous that they are either ornamental or comfortable. The truth is simply that it is another of the unforgotten fashions, and possessing one of the most remarkable origins. The man who wears spats nowadays may not be aware that in so doing he is in reality showing his appreciation of the gallantry of the Highland troops at Lucknow in the Indian Mutiny. It is rather a long time to keep up the celebration, but the fact is strictly true. Enthusiasm for the Highlanders on that occasion was wonderfully keen, and everybody wanted to look something of a Scot. London children were dressed up in kilts. City men would have liked to have followed suit, but the banks and the Stock Exchange would have thought it too ridiculous. So they went as far as they could without making too much of a show, and simply copied the Highlanders as to their feet. Hence the spats worn to-day.

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Captain X, who commands a company which is recruited from amongst the agricultural labourers of the district, is an enthusiastic Volunteer. Recently he called a parade for Saturday afternoon in order to exercise his men in the tactics of active service. Dividing his company into two sections he dispatched one, under Lieutenant Z, to hold a certain position, and later set forth at the head of the remaining section to attack it.

Unfortunately, the captain stumbled and cut his leg, but as the afternoon was waning he sent his men on under command of the colour-sergeant, whilst he sat by the hedge to bandage his leg with his handkerchief. Presently rose the sound of firing, shouts of alarm, and back down the stony lane came his men in ignominious flight.

"Cowards!" roared the captain, pausing in his bandaging, "have you let Lieutenant Z's men repulse you?"

"It ain't Lieutenant Z's men sir," gasped the portly and terrified colour-sergeant as he led the flight past his indignant officer, "it's Farmer B's bull!"

And as that ferocious animal immediately thundered into view, the captain, despite his injured leg, fled too.

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OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE EXEMPLIFIED.

To

COLOR-SERGEANT SUTHERLAND, 93RD HIGHLANDERS,

Fort William, Calcutta.

RESPECTED SIR,—I beg most humbly and respectfully to bring to your kind information that I am a very poor family man and I served as Barbar of the Prisoner and in the attached section since last 13 or 14 years, but the Prisoner have gone at Lucknow and I was serving in the attached section by Tin Pass by the kindness of Sergeants and Officers, but now without any faults and cause you have discharged me Sir! I am to support my wife and 5 little children and poor old blind mother by my income and I have fallen now under an unspectable distress and wants.

I used to support my said families very hardly by my income and I have no money that I may go with my whole family at my native country (Cawnpore), Sir 5 or 4 Barbars are shaving in your honor's regiment by the favour of Commanding Officer by the Tin Pass, kindly order me to shave as I used to do all along and thereby kindly do the act of my father and save me from my distress. Please regard my bad circumstances and allow me to get the former work, for which act of kindness I shall ever pray for your long life and prosperity.

21st July 1903.

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient servant.
SUTAR BUKSH,
Barbar.

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THE EMPIRE'S SECOND CITY.

A writer in the "U. F. Record" states that Calcutta now exceeds Bombay in population. He says:—The census of 1901 has established the claim of Calcutta to be not only urbs prima in India, but the second city of the Empire. In 1891 the population of the Calcutta municipal area was returned at 740,000; in 1901 it was 847,796. If we include the Howrah side of the river Hugli, which is as much part of Calcutta as the south side is part of Glasgow, we may reckon Calcutta as possessing 1,107,000 souls. The commercial supremacy of Calcutta over Bombay has always been admitted, but it was never greater than it is to-day. Bombay enjoys gifts of nature and advantages of position that are impossible in an alluvial delta. It further rejoices in a small but very keen foreign community—the Parsee colony—which has largely made the wealth of Bombay. But Calcutta, without any of these adventitious advantages, has outstripped her western sister in the race. Bombay is still urbs prima in India in the sense that she is nearer the homeland than any other city in India, but the higher meaning of the term now belongs to Calcutta.

MOSQUITO BANE.—A hint is given in "Health" to those whose pleasure or business avocation calls them to a sojourn in countries where mosquitos abound. Speaking from an experience of some years in Southern France and Italy, we can truly say that the infliction of these pests renders life at times absolutely unbearable. The advice, then, of one who has tried it is to throw a piece of alum the size of a marble into a bowl of water, and wet the hands and face and any exposed part lightly with it. Not a mosquito will, we are gravely assured, approach you.

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Ninety-third Calendar for November 1903.

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1 S. Mutiny Campaign. No. 8 Company defeated small force of enemy at Kudjwa near Fatehpur, 1857; 3 killed; 1 Officer and 15 men wounded. Sialkote to Jhansi, 1866.

2 M. Reached Cawnpore, 1857; 2 Companies under Lieut.-Col. Ewart attacked fortified village of Banterah, 10 miles from Lucknow; 2 Companies under Lieut.-Col. Adrian Hope captured gun at Bannee, 1 man killed, 3 wounded.

3 Tu. Embarked in detachments, Cork for West Indies, 1823. Left Sialkote to join Sir Neville Chamberlain's force for Eusafzai Campaign, 1863: strength, 22 Officers, 30 Sergeants, 25 Corporals, 20 Drummers, 497 Privates.

4 W. Embarked Cork for West Indies, 1823. Chaubattia for Bareilly, 1898.

5 Th. Ranikhet to Bareilly. Hill Manœuvres *en route*, 1900.

6 F. Embarked Cork for West Indies, 1823. Arrived Toronto from Montreal, 1838.

7 S.

8 S. Embarked Cork for West Indies, 1823; Tochi Campaign; break up of third Khaza Column at Inzar Kach, 1897. Arrived Bareilly from Chaubattia, 1898.

9 M. Sir Colin Campbell assumed command of force at Cawnpore for advance upon Lucknow, 1857. Attack on Fort Mittowlee, Oudh, 1858. Left Wing and Head-quarters arrived Bareilly from Hill Manœuvres, 1900.

10 Tu. Strength reduced to 45 Officers, 57 Sergeants, 24 Drummers, 48 Corporals, 6 Pipers and 952 Privates, 1856. Capture of Fort Mittowlee, 1858. Dagshai for Umballa, 1893.

11 W. Force for relief of Lucknow reviewed at Cawnpore by Sir Colin Campbell, 1857; 93rd, 53rd, and 4th Punjab Infantry brigaded together under Brig.-Genl. Adrian Hope, 93rd.

12 Th.

13 F. Windsor for Portsmouth *en route* for Glasgow, 1882.

14 S. Terrific gale at Balaklava, huts unroofed and every tent in camp levelled, 1854. Advance from Cawnpore for relief of Lucknow commenced, 1857. Pindi for Peshawar, 1861.

15 S. Arrived Umballa from Dagshai, 1893.

16 M. Secundrabagh and Shah Nujeef stormed by 93rd, 1857; 2 Officers and 24 men killed. 7 Officers and 61 men wounded. Arrived Glasgow from Windsor, 1882.

17 Tu. Communication with Residency, Lucknow, opened, 1857. Arrived Boya from Sheranni, 1897. Funeral of H. G. Duke of Wellington, detachment of 93rd in attendance, 1852.

18 W. Evacuation of Lucknow commenced, 1857.

19 Th.

20 F.

21 S. Re-armed with Lee-Enfield Rifle, 1900. "G" Company team fire for and win Army Inter-Company Volley Match (India) 1900.

22 S. Evacuation of Lucknow successfully accomplished, 1857.

23 M.

24 Tu. 2nd Battalion, 93rd, Disbanded Sunderland, 1815; 30 Sergeants, 23 Corporals, 11 Drummers and 303 men to 1st Battalion.

25 W.

26 Th.

27 F.

28 S. Sir Colin Campbell's force from Lucknow after forced march reinforced General Wyndham at Cawnpore, 1857.

29 S. Bridge of boats over Ganges at Cawnpore saved and secured by Sir Colin Campbell's force, 1857. Column under Major J. H. Campbell left Boya for Maizar, 1897.

30 M. St. Andrew's Day. Breech-loading Sniders, Pattern III, issued, 1870.

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EXTRACT FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE" DATED 11TH AUGUST 1903.

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders).—2nd-Lieutenant the Hon. R. Bruce (Master of Burleigh) to be Lieutenant, *vice* B. A. Harvey, resigned 9th May 1903.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Color-Sergeant.—No. 2594, Sergeant W. McMaster, "C" Company, dated 13th September 1903.

To be Sergeants.—No. 6538, Lance-Sergeant T. Memmott, "E" Company, dated 17th August 1903; No. 6145, Lance-Sergeant A. Macdonald, "B" Company, dated 13th September 1903.

To be Corporals.—No. 5378, Lance-Corporal C. Campbell, "H" Company, dated 17th August 1903; No. 6295, Lance-Corporal W. Alder, "H" Company, dated 13th September 1903.

PAY OF RANK.

To be paid Lance-Sergeants.—No. 5945, Corporal A. MacCrae, "E" Company, dated 17th August 1903; No. 3548, Corporal C. Greenland, "E" Company, dated 13th September 1903.

To be paid Lance-Corporal.—No. 7438, Lance-Corporal J. Galbraith, "D" Company, dated 17th August 1903.

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ANTEDATED.

The following promotions and appointments are antedated from 17th to 16th August 1903:—

The promotions of—

No. 5667, Sergeant A. Goddard, "E" Company.
„ 5865, Corporal F. Johnston, "A" „

The appointments of—

No. 4878, Lance-Sergeant J. MacLauchlan, "G" Coy.
„ 6213, Lance-Corporal A. Campbell, "E" Coy.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporal.—No. 5944, Private D. Halley, "H" Company, dated 2nd September 1903.

To be Drummer.—No. 7786, Private C. Shoolbread, "B" Company, dated 7th September 1903.

To be Piper.—No. 8157, Drummer L. A. Planner, "A" Company, dated 7th September 1903.

To be Bandsman.—No. 4553, Private F. Quinn, "F" Company, dated 18th August 1903.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 3d. per diem:—

"E" Company.

No. 4169, Private T. Mansfield.

At 2d. per diem:—

"D" Company.

No. 5652, Private A. Leitch.

"F" Company.

No. 6014, Pte. A. Baxter. | No. 6266, Pte. J. McLaren.

At 1d. per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 7792, Private J. Campbell.

"D" Company.

No. 5672, Private R. Kilpatrick.

"E" Company.

No. 5997, Pte. J. McGuire. | No. 5863, Pte. D. Gallagher.

"F" Company.

No. 6419, Private A. Caskie.

"H" Company.

No. 4244, Pte. J. Cathcart. | No. 8153 Pte. J. Finlay.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted 3rd class certificates of Education, dated Jalapahar, 17th September 1903.—

No. 7507,	Lce.-Corpl.	R. Kean,	"A" Company.
„ 9090,	Bandsman	A. Petrie,	"A" „
„ 8179,	Private	J. Campbell,	"A" „
„ 9060,	Drummer	W. McCulloch,	"C" „
„ 9054,	Boy	H. McLachlan,	"D" „
„ 7739,	Private	G. Slane,	"H" „

Passed a course of cold-shoeing at Barrackpore on the 31st August 1903.—No. 6020, Private J. McMahon, "H" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENTIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service.—No. 4878, Lance-Sergeant J. McLauchlan, "G" Company.

To complete twelve years' service with the colours:—

No. 6088,	Sergeant	R. G. Milne,	"G" Company.
„ 5667,	„	A. Goddard,	"E" „
„ 5620,	Corporal	E. Ellis,	"C" „
„ 5618,	„	A. McMaster,	"D" „
„ 5868,	„	J. Gilmour,	"G" „
„ 5944,	Lce.-Cpl.	D. Halley,	"H" „
„ 7786,	Drummer	C. Shoolbread,	"B" „
„ 5716,	Bandsman	T. McGeechan,	"F" „
„ 5607,	Private	W. Pollock,	"H" „

To complete eight years with the colours:—

No. 5551,	Private	W. Montgomery,	"E" Company.
„ 5696,	„	C. Harkness,	"E" „
„ 5726,	„	W. Sibbald,	"H" „

TRANSFERS.

Inter-Company:—

No. 6538,	Sergeant	T. Memmott,	"E" to "D" Coy.
„ 6145,	„	A. Macdonald,	"B" „ "C" „
„ 5378,	Corporal	C. Campbell,	"H" „ "E" „
„ 6295,	„	W. Alder,	"H" „ "B" „
„ 7786,	Drummer	C. Shoolbread,	"B" „ "A" „
„ 4553,	Bandsman	F. Quinn,	"F" „ "H" „
„ 8157,	Piper	L. Planner,	"A" „ "F" „

To Army Reserve in India:—

No. 7797,	Pte.	J. Morrison,	"A" Coy., dated 23-9-03.
„ 5845,	„	J. Brown,	"A" „ „ 18-9-09.
„ 5676,	„	D. Wilson,	"G" „ „ 15-9-03.

To Supernumerary List on completion of three months' extra regimental employment.—No. 5921, Colour-Sergeant R. G. Gilmour, "C" Company, dated 13th September 1903.

From 2nd Gordon Highlanders.—Private James Murray taken on the strength and posted to "B" Company from 1st September 1903.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

The number 9258 to Pte. J. Mulholland, "G" Company.
„ „ 9259 „ „ W. Croll, "B" „

STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

Discharged Free after twelve years' service.—No. 3244, Sergeant A. E. Laurie, "D" Company, dated 15th August 1903.

FURLOUGHS.

No. 1423,	Sergt.-Major	H. Ditcham,	5-9 to 28-9-03.
„ 3116,	Qr.-M.-Sergt.	W. R. Weller,	6-9 to 22-9-03.
„ 5219,	Sergeant	M. Sutherland,	6-9 to 22-9-03.
„ 6541,	Private	J. Scrymgeour,	3-9 to 13-9-03.
„ 6709,	„	G. Scarff,	3-9 to 16-9-03.
„ 4514,	„	P. Park,	7-9 to 7-10-03.

INVALIDS.

Passed Invaliding Board at Calcutta:—

„ 6665,	Private	J. Smith,	"A" Company.
„ 6138,	„	J. McBride,	"A" „
„ 7427,	„	C. Burns,	"D" „
„ 5335,	„	G. Downs,	"F" „
„ 7570,	„	W. Lamb,	"F" „
„ 7638,	„	A. Oram,	"F" „
„ 7745,	„	J. Cownie,	"F" „
„ 5673,	Lce.-Cpl.	J. Lang,	"F" „
„ 7122,	„	R. Bell,	"H" „
„ 6723,	Private	J. Wadell,	"H" „

Passed Invaliding Board at Darjeeling:—

No. 4885,	Private	J. Devlin,	"D" Company.
„ 7584,	„	J. Macready,	"D" „
„ 6236,	„	A. McKinnon,	"G" „

——: o :——

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Lieutenant the Hon. A. C. Murray ...	4	8	0
„ A. N. De, V. Scott... ...	6	0	0

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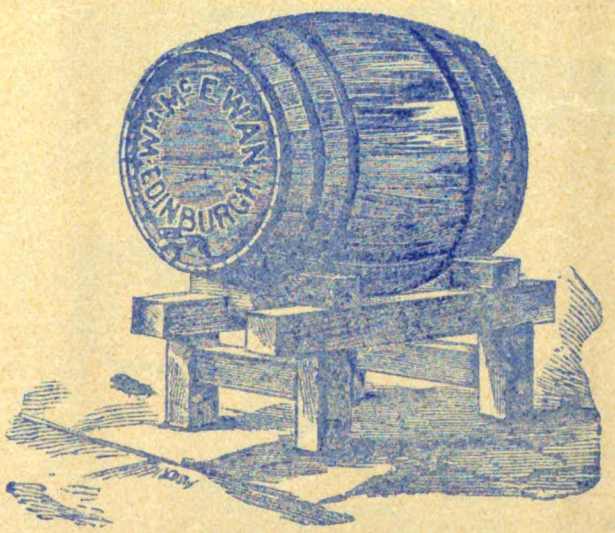

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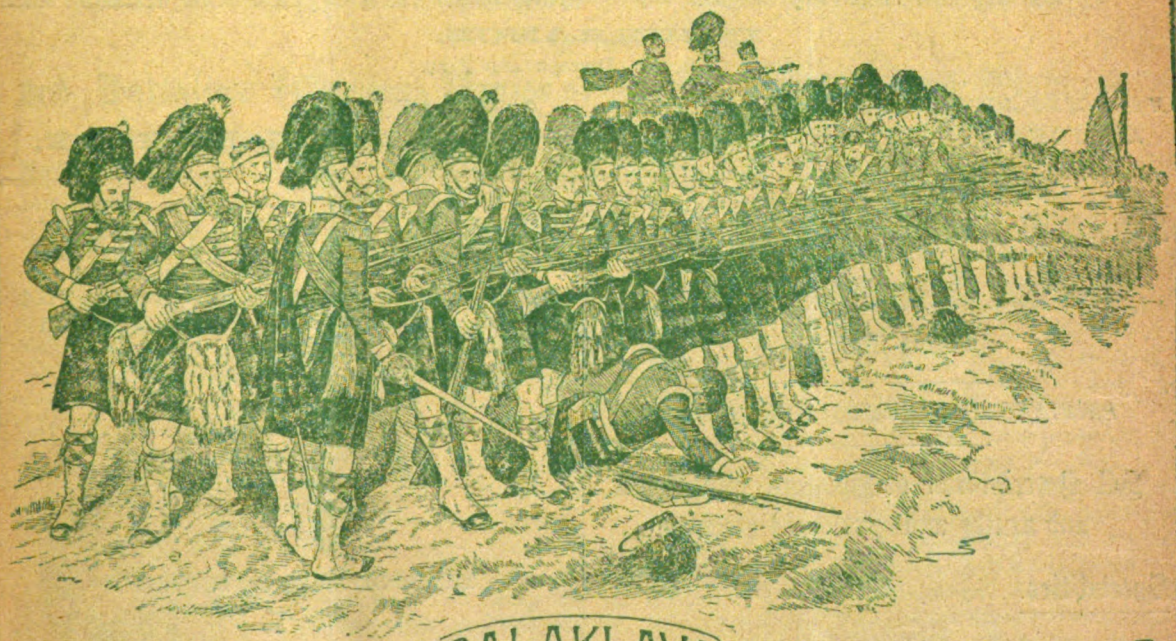
NOVEMBER 1903

No 1
Vol IX

XCIII
SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS

The Thin Red Line.



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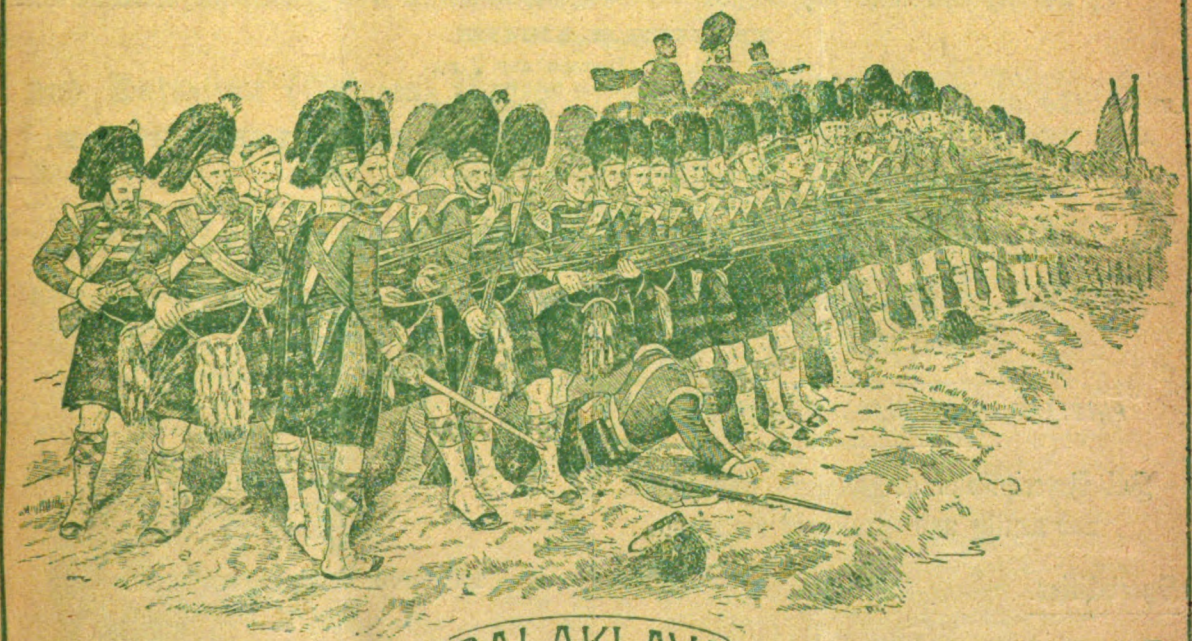
NOVEMBER 1903

No 1 Vol IX

XCIII
SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS

The Thin Red Line.



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THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Battalion (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 7—Vol. IX.] POONA—NOVEMBER 1903. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

OCTOBER has been altogether taken up with the several phases of the move from Calcutta to Poona. First of all there was a camp to pitch on the maidan outside Fort William for the reception of the 4th (King's Own) Royal Lancaster Regiment; then our own kits and belongings had to be packed, and we were ready for the move. On the 15th of the month we embarked on the Royal Indian Marine Steamer "*Hardinge*." We arrived at Bombay on the 22nd, disembarked on the 23rd, and arrived at Poona on the 24th. The remainder of the month was fully occupied with settling down in our new quarters. The Marching in Return shows a strength of 25 Officers and 1065 Rank and File.

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The weather in the beginning of the month was most unpropitious for out-door work, and on one or two mornings it rained hard while we were working at the camp for the King's Own. The glacis of the fort, on the N. E. side, was selected as probably the driest spot for a camp, but all over the maidan it is very damp at this time of the year, and an unpleasant mist rises during the night. The camp too was a bit scattered, as we tried to choose the highest places for the tents. However as they will move into barracks, as soon as they have had a spring cleaning, the Regiment will only be in camp very temporarily. The "*Hardinge*" came in on the afternoon of the 9th, and the King's Own marched into their camp on the 10th. They have brought several of the new home ideas in the way of uniform with them, which strike us out here as peculiar at first. The German band style of cap, and the N.C.O's. chevrons on both arms were the most noticeable. We wish our relief the best of times in Calcutta.

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The preparations for it, and the actual move, are described elsewhere in our columns, and some account of our first impressions of Poona will appear in the next issue of the "*Thin Yin*," so further reference to them here would be

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superfluous. But the change from the moisture of the atmosphere in Eastern Bengal, to the dryness of the Poona air has already made itself most pleasantly noticeable. The 52nd, whose place we have taken, passed us in Bombay en route for England, so we did not see them except across the water. As they embarked on the "*Plassey*" the tugs and barges came alongside the "*Hardinge*" and took us ashore. Wanowri Barracks, after we had got them into a state of comparative cleanliness, seem to afford very good accommodation, and certainly look better than the Ghorpuri lines, where our old friends the Lillywhites once again find themselves next us. Since we last saw them in Bareilly they have been up to Jullundur in the Punjab.

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The Jalapahar Detachment proved beyond doubt that they had been there all the time, (which the editorial staff of the "*Thin Yin*" had really begun to doubt as month after month passed without a word of news from them,) by their arrival some 154 strong under command of Captain Darroch on the 7th. They seemed to be by no means the worse for their sojourn among the clouds.

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Before we left Calcutta we attempted to prove in some tangible form our appreciation of all the kindness we had received at the hands of the members of the congregations of St. Andrews Church and the United Free Church. An exact copy of the communion cup subscribed for among the men of the Regiment in Cape Town in 1813 was given to each vestry, the Commanding Officer and Major Mackenzie making the respective presentations.

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A draft of fifteen T. X. men left us in Calcutta, many of our old friends being successful in securing passages. We wonder how many of them will turn back to the ranks of the 93rd rather than face the competition in the open labour market! Not a few of them is our selfish hope.

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Major A. E. J. Cavendish, C. M. G. joined us as Second-in-Command on the 3rd. He had come direct from South Africa, having made a voyage of 34 days from Durban.

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The Garrison of Poona is two British Infantry Regiments, three Native Infantry Regiments, and one Native Cavalry Regiment. At Kirkee 5 miles off is a Battery of Field Artillery and a Native Infantry Regiment and a company of Bombay Sappers and Miners. In addition to these there is the school of Army Signalling for the Bombay and Madras Commands, also the Central School of Gymnasia for the two commands, and a Mounted Infantry School. There is moreover a Garrison Class School, and as besides being the head-quarters of the Poona District it is the head quarters of the Bombay Command, we may say that we are fairly in the middle of things Military.

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The Wanowri Ranges are the scene too of the Bombay Presidency Rifle Association, but this year their meeting comes so soon after our arrival that only a few entries have been secured for the Unlimited and Championship Matches. An account of the meeting, which takes place in November, will we hope appear in our next issue, but we hope that next year the marksmen of the Regiment will be more to the fore.

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"A" Company in the meanwhile have lost no time in getting to work with their annual course. It is pleasant to have got back to the real thing after all the useless Morris tube shooting in the old moat of Fort William.

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"G" Company likewise have begun their course of military training. The country round here seems to be very well suited to tactical schemes on any scale. The older soldiers among us will possibly notice a resemblance to the country round Nowshera in many aspects. In places it might almost bring to mind parts of the border countries in the old country—substituting spear grass of a most vicious type for heather.

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Captain Darroch on return from the hills resumed command of "E" Company, and Captain Hyslop on return from leave that of "B" Company. Lieutenant Akers-Douglas also resumed pay and command of "C" Company, after a couple of months' absence on leave. Lieutenant Gillatt took over pay of "D" Company from Lieutenant Thomson, who has proceeded to the Depot for duty there in place of Lieutenant McPherson. 2nd Lieutenant Lord George Dundas has gone to Ranikhet to attend a course of instruction at the Garrison Class there. Of attached Officers, Lieutenant McIvor has left us on appointment to the Central India Horse, and Lt. G. A. M. Praed for the 5th B. L. I. but on the other hand we have taken over no fewer than six from the 52nd, 2nd Lt. Anderson joins "B" Company, 2nd Lt. Carroll "D" Coy. 2nd Lt. Birdwood "C" Coy, 2nd Lt. Airy, "E" Coy. 2nd Lt. Hogg, "G" Coy. and 2nd Lt. Standbridge "H" Coy. With the five who came with us from Calcutta we have now therefore no fewer than eleven attached officers.

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A new burst of classes has set in in the Battalion and now Semaphore Signalling, Machine Gun, and Swimming Classes are going on at all hours. That all Officers and N.C. Officers should know Semaphore Signalling is an order here. At any time it may often come in useful off parade as well as on. The machine gun section being now part of the mobilization force of a Battalion in the 1st Army Corps, the N.C.O's. who have not hitherto learnt the mechanism etc. of them are being daily instructed in their working. The two Maxims were taken over from the 52nd.

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Lieutenant Forbes is to be congratulated on his promotion to that rank, He and 2nd Lieut. James are on their way out from home on the expiry of their leave.

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The following extracts from a letter written by Sir Alfred Gaselee, L. G. C. Bengal, to the Commanding Officer, will be of interest. Sir Alfred Gaselee, as all our readers are aware, was an Ensign in the NINETY THIRD in the early sixties.

DEAR COLONEL PATERSON—I am very sorry that the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders are leaving my Command, and especially so that I have not had an opportunity of seeing the Regiment before its departure. * * *

I feel sure that you will all like Poona, which is one of the best stations in India. I wish you all good fortune. Believe me yours very truly.

ALFRED GASELEE.

Head Quarters, Naini Tal,
5th October, 1903.

We, on our part, can express our regrets at not having had the pleasure of a visit from the General.

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Bandmaster J. Walsh and Sergeant W. Hall were both made the recipients, before our departure from Calcutta, of conducting batons from the community, as a mark of their appreciation of their talent while conducting the band on the many occasions on which they played in public. These gifts will, we feel sure, be highly valued by the owners as a reminder of the appreciative audience which was always massed on the occasions when the Band played for the entertainment of the people of Calcutta.

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The R. I. M. S. "*Hardinge*" after discharging us in Bombay, was to have been handed over to the care of the firm into whose hands her preparation was given for the reception and accommodation of the representative of the Sovereign, during His Excellency's forthcoming tour to the Persian Gulf. Five men of war have been detailed to accompany the "*Hardinge*" on her voyage, as escort to the Viceroy.

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We record with pleasure our congratulations to Privates Pollock, Morrison and Drummer Dunne on having taken 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in the swimming match (100 yards), open to the British Army, which took place in Calcutta just before our departure. Their times were 1 min. 22¼ secs., 1 min. 24 secs., and 1 min. 25 sec.

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VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

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SURPRISE PARADE OF THE PAISLEY BATTALION.

Peaceful citizens of Paisley unused to war's alarms would be somewhat mystified on Tuesday evening to hear the bugles sing the "assemble," and also to hear the peal of the slogan in the streets, But there was not so much wrong after all; merely a surprise test of the efficacy of our Volunteers in the matter of turning out in full dress against time. The men were to muster by arrangement at 8 o'clock, but long before that hour a number put in an appearance, the first being Sergeant M'Nair, B Company. Shortly before eight o'clock the Renfrew and Johnstone Companies marched into the hall and took up there position. The "state" was then taken, after which, under the command of the popular commander, Colonel James Paton, V. D., they marched down High-street, Causeyside, and up George-street, down Broomland and Wellmeadow to the hall. About 300 were on parade, amongst the officers present being Major J. Cook, acting adjutant, and Major W. Brown, Renfrew.

Colonel Paton addressed the officers and men, thanking them for the ready way in which they had responded to the call to parade, and for the smart and tidy appearance they presented. He hoped they would get as many recruits this year as possible, and that the members would take full advantage of the fine suites of rooms, etc., in connection with their handsome drill hall. In concluding, he said he intended to present a shield or cup as a prize, to be held for a year by the captain of the company that turned out the best percentage of their strength. Next year, he thought the men should get some little prize too, and he would be willing to give each man in the winning company 24 rounds of ammunition to practice at their new range, which he thought would be ready by next season. This year the first honours of the parade had been won by C Company (Captain D. P. Donald), Johnstone, who had a percentage of 67 by having 76 on parade; the second place being taken by G Company (Renfrew), with an attendance of 53 and a percentage of 59; whilst the third place was occupied by A Company (Paisley), with a percentage of 50, having 38 on parade. The Colonel then called for three cheers for the Johnstone Company, after which the battalion was dismissed.—*Paisley and Renfrewshire Gazette.*

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While a Scottish regiment was on the march in India, the doctor, as is usual, paraded the men for feet inspection. On going his rounds he reprimanded a private for having dirty feet. The next day the officer asked the offender why he had not washed. "Weel, sir," was the reply. "there was a dizzen or mair o' us washin' oor feet in a'e bine, an' I ken this much, that I washed a pair o' feet, but whether they were mine or no' I canna sweer."

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A South American Reminiscence.

Manuel Gasparro de Herrera and Pedro Antonia Ximenes were "buen amicos" and very proud Hidalgos as well. True, Pedro's occupation entailed the compounding of pills in a drug store, while Manuel displayed draperies and lingeries to the soft glances of the mantilla-clad beauties of their small Spanish-American town, but these were mere accidents of life which a pure blooded Hidalgo could afford to despise. A ready revolver discountenanced any impertinent remarks regarding the very negro-indian type of our heroes' physiognomy or the significant darkness of their skins. Even in this ready-to-draw-and-shoot country these two were noted for their celerity and accuracy, though where they had learned the art was a mystery to me. Every evening the two friends, attired in their best store clothes, wide Panamas and beautifully curled moustachios, beneath which protruded a huge Spanish cigar, would walk down Estrada del Caballo just as the sun glare faded, and saunter into the little Plazza on the bank of the great river in which stood the "Cantina" with its imposing rows of iron chairs and tables where-to gathered the rank and fashion of the town to gossip and sip seductive cocktails, while enjoying the cool night breeze from the river. Hither one evening came the bone of contention: she was a little olive-tinted thing with flashing eyes and soft full lips and she coquetted with both at once behind her fan as only a Spanish señorita can do to perfection. Then they quarrelled, (not seriously at first, I've heard,) till one night each thought he was master, and with male instinct wanted her all to himself, and words were used that between Hidalgos could only lead to blood issue. Next morning they met on their way to their respective employ and I fear, used words that I should blush to repeat to you even in Spanish; then with a polite sweep of sombreros, they parted to drown hate in pills and lingerie. Evening came and we all gathered as usual, but no Manuel, no Pedro, : No, not till the last possible spectator had arrived did we see anything of them. Then it was dramatic enough. From either end of the eighty yards wide Plazza appeared a magnificently dressed figure sweeping a bow. Then as quick as thought out came six-shooters, and the two ran towards one another firing rapidly. I, foolish foreigner, jumped up to intervene, but was held back by strong hands. My neighbours at the back row of tables placidly smoked on, making bets as to the winner, while those in the front rows nearer the line of fire beat a hasty retreat behind the Cantina, only a few of the bolder ones tilting over the iron tables and using them as shields, peering gingerly over the top or round the edges. It was all over in ten seconds. The two men had run towards the centre of the Plazza firing fast and exchanging their last shots at arms length, falling in a heap together.

Some few of the onlookers ran to see what had happened, but the majority still sat smoking; two of the Garda de Ville swaggered out of the Cantina and took charge of everybody. I raised poor Manuel, but one glance told me he would sell draperies no more. Three small holes, one low down in the breast, one on the point of the chin and one full in the centre of the throat, told their deadly tale. Pedro was alive but had fainted. Manuel the better shot had aimed for the heart to kill, Pedro to hit and stop anyhow, and luck was with him, for two bullets, in the left side, one above and the other just below the heart, one in the arm and two holes through his loose jacket as well, told how narrow had been his escape. Next day the big hall in the Governor's "Casa" was crowded to hear the trial of Pedro. Spaniards are nothing if not dramatic, therefore inquest and trial took place at the same time. At one end of the hall sat his Excellency surrounded by every official who could squeeze in, and guarded by 20 ragged soldiers, while 30 more stood at the back of the hall. Stretched on a table immediately in front of the Governor lay the body of poor Manuel, still in his bloody clothes but wrapped in his blanket "poncho," on a chair alongside. Between two carabineros sat Pedro pale, wan and bandaged. All this was impressive and, until the Government Attorney had finished his indictment, even striking. Then to our English ideas of courts of justice, all was chaos. Who was judge, jury or witness I never discovered. All spoke at once and every one ventilated his opinion freely, moving about in the court, conversing with the prisoner and often indecently uncovering the corpse.

After about an hour of this the Jefe Civil or Chief Magistrate announced that Pedro was sentenced to a year's imprisonment, and smiling feebly he was carried off to the prison hospital.

A few days later I departed on an expedition to the mountains, returning after six weeks to the little town, just as the Plazza was filling for the evening gossip, and the first man I saw was Pedro, even more gorgeous, and with a bigger cigar than formerly, surrounded by an admiring crowd of youths. The following morning I went to the drug store and purchased something quite unneeded. Pedro, with the air of an emperor, was compounding pills as usual. Yes, gracias a Dios, he was now well and suffered little discomfort from his wound but "cui bono"? That Manuel's successor was flirting desperately with the senorita and he could not shoot him also so soon, no, not just so soon could he? Ah! the prison? Well his friends had a few "pesos" (dollars) so as soon as he could leave hospital the Governor pardoned him and he went back to his pills.

So they do things in the west.—"PRO. REGE."

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Calcutta to Poona.

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A SUMMARY OF THE MOVE.

The morning of the 15th October found us falling in for the last time on the barrack square of Fort William, surrounded as it is by the time honoured, if time expired, battlements of that antiquated fort. When we had fallen in, General Leach, commanding the district, rode on to the parade ground with his staff, and made a very flattering farewell speech before we marched off, headed by the band of the King's Own Regiment. For a week or two previous many details had to be gone into, and everyone found plenty to do to pass the time, as from morning till night we were hard at it, packing our own kit, pitching a camp on the maidan for the King's Own, who arrived on the "*Hardinge*" on the 9th, and stowing all our baggage in the hold of the ship when we had got it all ready. There seemed to be an extraordinary amount of baggage when we came to stowing it on board, but by dint of hard work and long hours for all we eventually were able to feel that one of the worst parts of leaving a station was over. The R.I.M. Steamer "*Hardinge*" of 5,434 tons, has a length of 427 feet over all and a width of 50 ft. 9 in. She was lying in the Government Dockyard, about ¾ of a mile from our door, so the march down was not fatiguing.

The heat on the troop deck was terrible as we waited, having divested ourselves of our equipment, for orders to fall out on the upper deck. By companies we first marched ashore to bring our "black bags" on board, and immediately afterwards the gangways were cast off, and our floating home for the next week began to warp out into the stream. As she left the quay General Leach, who had waited to see us off, called for three cheers, which were heartily given by many of our friends whom we were leaving in Calcutta and who had come down to wish us God-speed and a safe voyage.

On the call of our Commanding Officer the cheers were as heartily responded to, and to the strains of band and pipes alternately we rapidly floated out into the stream and were soon fast leaving Calcutta behind, and heading through the muddy waters of the Hooghly towards the open sea. The change from the heat while lying at the quay to the fresh breeze as we moved was most gratifying, and everyone began to feel that it was good to look forward to an easy week at sea after the fatigues of the past week.

By 5 p. m. we were in the open sea, and had shaken down to the new routine. At 7 we dropped the pilot at the brig, and headed for the Little Bassas. The watches and duties having been told off, and parades having been ordered, which indeed could only be of the most perfunctory kind owing to the limited deck-space, each of us knew what was expected of us, and could settle down with an easy mind. The troop deck, though sometimes hot, is on the whole very well accommodated, and although hammocks were not provided, we generally managed to get a comfortable night on deck, where it was none too hot. We found that the Regiment filled the ship very well, and there was not much space wasted.

The first day at sea proved to be very smooth, and indeed all through the voyage there was no motion which we land-lubbers could complain of. The day was, of course, cloudless and enough to put any one into a pleasant frame of mind, and when evening came and the band struck up, while we watched the extraordinary beauties of a sunset at sea, it seemed indeed good to be alive.

For the next four days, although we had some showers, we did very much the same as on the first day. On Sunday we varied our routine a little by parading in all white for service on the after deck. We also had "spotted tommy" at dinners. About midnight on Sunday night we rounded the Little Bassas Head, and on Monday morning we found Ceylon about 6 or 7 miles away on our starboard quarter. Passing the Point de Galle we headed due west for a couple of hours till we were clear of Ceylon, steaming among many small fishing craft, and getting a fine sight of Ceylon, and the entrance to Colombo Harbour, and then turned to a more northerly course, steering for the southernmost point of India. There was a slight swell as we crossed the Gulf of Manora, and as we left Ceylon disappearing below the horizon we once more found ourselves out of sight of land.

On the evening of the 20th a concert was held on the after deck, at which nearly everyone was present. The programme was as follows :—

Song	...	Private Clarke ...	My love is like a red red rose.
Song	...	Sergeant Glass ...	Duncan McIntosh (Encore "A braw bricht moonlicht nicht")
Song	...	Corporal Markey...	Baby Bill.
Song	...	Private Davis ...	Let me like a soldier fall (Encore-When other lips)
Banjo Duet—Lt. Money R.I.M. and Asst.Surg. Bromley.			
Song	...	Private Greig ...	Banks of Loch Lomond..
Song	...	Bandmaster Walsh	Her Nainsel'.
Song	...	Lieut. Kennedy ...	Honey O'
Song	...	Sergt. Memmott...	The Guard Ship.
Song	...	Private McCreath	Sons of the Sea.
Song	...	Private Wright ...	Down by the river side.
Song	...	Private Brisland ...	Selected—(by Brisland).

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The items were much appreciated and several encores were responded to. Private Davis' singing was especially good. Private Brisland also nearly brought the awnings down. The evening went off very well and proved a pleasant diversion.

About midnight we sighted the lights near Cape Comorin and at daylight the next morning were heading about North West, and in sight of the land along the Cochin coast. In the afternoon some "games" were organized which proved quite as interesting as was expected.

The spud race, consisting of picking up potatoes singly and dropping them into buckets, drew several heats and was eventually won by Private Cairns. The wheel-barrow race also drew many entries, and afforded the spectators some amusing sights, but the decks were disastrous to some of the wheel-barrows' hands. Ptes. Cameron and Robinson tied with Ptes. McPherson and Bradey. The cock-fighting was quite popular, but there was such a crowd round the combatants that only a few fortunates saw it all. Pte. Turnbull won after doing some good hard work. The soda and biscuit race did not prove such a success as was anticipated, although there were plenty of competitors for the sodas. "Swinging the Monkey" which was explained by the First Lieutenant of the ship, consisted in standing on one's hands with one's feet in a noose lashed to a spar overhead, and whoever could get his hands furthest forward was adjudged the winner. This proved to be Private Cairns. The Obstacle Race, always a good event at sea, proved no disappointment. The first obstacle was a large net spread and fastened tight by the four corners down on the deck. After getting underneath this, where the competitors resembled nothing so much as a herd of pigs galloping through long grass, there was another net of the same size, about one foot mesh, slung about four foot from the deck which had to be crossed over. It was about 12 feet wide. Then came four or five long canvas windsails, about 18 inches diameter and 20 foot long, one of which was sewn up at the end and another was smothered with flour. This one proved very troublesome to the wind of the unfortunates who chose it as being the shortest. Then came the water jump, but there was a greased pole for any who did not care about wetting their feet,—which was not patronized very much.

For the first eight or ten who succeeded thus far, bags were provided, in all of which—except one—there was chaff. In the other one there proved to be bricks—probably this was the reason it was discarded by everyone as long as there was another left. The winners had to carry these bags with them over a double net, about 6 feet high and 3 feet apart, past the winning post. The winner out of about 15 starters of this by no means easy race was Private Cairns. The subaltern officers, with the intention we suppose—not from results—of showing their skill, to the number of about 12, then scrambled through the course, Second Lieutenant Pulford, attached, being the winner. Company tugs of war followed, in which "E" Company proved their superiority. In the evening a few reels were danced by the officers on the after deck, and Pipe Major Lynch did a Ghille Callum.

About mid-day on the 22nd, Bombay began to show over the horizon, and by 2-30 the "Hardinge" was at her moorings. We had taken seven days over the voyage, although it can be done much quicker, as we had to wait to let the 52nd get away from our barracks in Poona, which they did on the 22nd embarking on the 23rd on board the H.T. "*Plassey*," which was lying next to us off the Apollo Bunder. During the afternoon and evening we got well on with the unloading of the upper hold, placing the baggage on board lighters alongside. No very exciting news seemed to be waiting for us in the week's newspapers.

Daybreak on the morning of the 23rd found us again at the work of transferring the baggage from the hold into lighters and at midday "B" "C" "D" and "H" Companies went ashore to the Sassoon Dock where we found trucks waiting for the baggage. After dinners in the troop shed the work of loading the train began, and it speaks well for the amount of work done that by nightfall all the baggage was loaded. After tea the first four companies to land entrained and left the Sassoon Dock Siding about 7-30. The railway, as most of our readers are aware, runs through Bombay at first, so that we had a good view of all the streets as we passed. "A" "E" and "F" Companies followed in the next train and "G" Company brought up the rear with the baggage. The first train arrived in Ghorpuri Troop siding at daylight on the 24th and the last one about 10 o'clock, and by 2 p. m. the 80 odd mule carts and 20 or 30 bullock carts had landed all the baggage in barracks. By nightfall every one had settled down in their respective bungalows. The fatigue work all along was very heavy, but the more there was to be done the more cheerily everyone went at it, according to our custom, and it seemed marvellous to watch the huge pile of some hundreds of tons of baggage melting in a few hours in one place and growing bigger and bigger at its destination. An account of the Wanowri Lines where we now find ourselves, must be reserved for another article.

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"Good-Bye" to the 93rd Highlanders.

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Writing in a supplement to "Life and Work" for October, which was reprinted in "St. Andrew," The Rev. J. Walker says :—

"In view of the departure of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders to Poona, it was decided to give a farewell entertainment to the Regiment on a more imposing scale than has hitherto been attempted in the monthly socials.

Monday, 12th October, was decided on, and the Y. M. C. A. Hall was tastefully decorated under Miss Manuk and Mrs. Anthony's directions, with evergreens and flags, and the colours of the Regiment prominently displayed at the buffet presided over by Miss Manuk.

Each soldier was presented with an artistic programme, the back page of which contained a reproduction of Robert Gibb's famous picture of the Thin Red Line, also the most important battles of the 93rd Regiment. Enclosed was a souvenir in the shape of a satin bookmark bearing the crests of the Church of Scotland and the 93rd Regiment, also the war cry of the Regiment in Gaelic and "Au Revoir" underneath.

Tea having been served under Miss Harvey's directions, assisted by an efficient staff of ladies and gentlemen, the Pipers opened the programme with "The Atholl Gathering" and songs, sentimental and humourous, followed in the course of the evening.

The fare provided was similar to that tendered on previous occasions, and where all did so well it would be invidious to particularize, suffice it to say that the various members were received with the utmost enthusiasm, and encores were the order of the evening.

The Regimental Band were also in attendance and discoursed appropriate music during the evening.

After the interval Colonel Paterson intimated that he had a pleasing duty to perform.

In a neat little speech he referred to the kindness which the Regiment had met with during their stay in Calcutta and particularly from the members of St. Andrew's Church who had entertained the men from month to month. A deputation from the Regiment had waited on him and expressed the desire to mark their appreciation in some tangible manner, which suggestion had met with his as also the approval of the Officers of the Regiment.

He had therefore pleasure in asking Mr. Scott to accept on behalf of St. Andrew's Church of a silver communion cup which was a replica of the plate first used in the Regiment about a century ago. Mr. Scott suitably replied. The Colonel then asked Mrs. Anthony and myself to accept of a timepiece and silver mounted cigarholder respectively as tokens of the appreciation of the Regiment for our having promoted and carried on the monthly socials.

Mr. Anthony replied for Mrs. Anthony, and in returning thanks, I expressed the pleasure it had given us all to have had the opportunity of entertaining the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, of whom the Scotch community of Calcutta were proud, and we wished them every success in the station to which they were being sent.

The hall was very well filled, about 500 being present including friends, amongst whom were Major Sommerville and several officers of the Lancaster Regiment. The proceedings terminated with "Auld lang syne" followed by "God save the King."

The Regiment left by the "*Hardinge*" on the 15th instant, and several friends assembled to see them off.

We will miss the swing of the kilts and the skirl of the pipes, but what is our loss will be Poona's gain, and we wish the Regiment "God speed."

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The Rev. T. Scott also writes :—

"We were all proud of Mr. Walker and his staff on the night of the last social, they reflected great credit on this Church and we are much indebted to all who assisted. The Communion Cup presented by the Regiment to St. Andrew's bears the inscription ;—Church 93rd Sutherland Highlanders. Presented to St. Andrew's Church by Officers, N.C.Os. and Men of 93rd Sutherland Highlanders as a mark of respect and esteem. 1902-1903.

It is interesting to remember that for several years after the great Disruption in 1843 there was much heated feeling in the regiment over the Secession of the Free Church, and I rather think the illustrious General Macbean, V. C., who made his way up from the ranks had to face a strong prejudice because of his espousing the new body. Now, sixty long years after that great event the regiment holds out to each Church a token of fellowship. The two Churches had engaged in a novel rivalry of attention and kindness to our gallant soldiers who thus became a new bond between us. Bless them all ; it was a fine thing to do and we must take the hint and love one another."

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FROM THE "ENGLISHMAN," CALCUTTA.

During the past nineteen months the United Free Church of Scotland has endeavoured to cheer and brighten the lot of the Highlanders by providing a Social meeting each month, and the measure in which the efforts have been appreciated was pleasingly indicated on Wednesday evening last. Upwards of 300 men and Major Mackenzie and Lieutenant Kennedy, the Adjutant of the Regiment, were present at the last of the series. The musical programme arranged by Mr. Horn, to whose energy the success of the meetings has been due, was of an exceptionally interesting character. Mr. Honeyman both sang and played very charmingly, and the instrumental selections by Misses Gray and Mr. Russell were greatly enjoyed, a portion of the Highlanders Band also played, and a Cornet Solo by Sergeant McLachlan was one of the treats of the evening. Mr. Bishop sang with taste and feeling the fine old ballad "Mary," and Mr. McCurrah's rendering of "Queen of the Earth," and Mr. Walker's "Warrior Bold" and "Scotland Yet," left nothing to be desired. Patriotic songs were naturally appreciated, and Mr. Kee's singing of "There's a land," and Mr. Bushell's singing of "Rule Britannia," were evidently enjoyed. An audience more ready to join in a chorus it would be difficult to have found. It was however the singing by Miss Macaskill of the old Scotch Ballad "Leezie Lindsay" that roused the greatest enthusiasm of the Highland laddies, and when she sang at the close of the evening "Will ye no come back again," they joined in the chorus with a will, and the desire to come back again if only to hear such singing again, seemed to echo through the Hall. The humorous element was furnished by Piper Burns who sang a really comic song in a really humorous style, and Mr. Waite literally brought down the house with his inimitable rendering of two Irish songs. The vigorous dancing of the "Highland Fling" by Pipe Major Lynch and the "Scotch Reel" by Pipe Major Lynch, Pipers Smith, Planner and Robinson was loudly applauded and the exhibition of Club Swinging by Private Harper was an interesting item.

Half-way through the programme Major Mackenzie came forward, and after explaining the unavoidable absence of Colonel Paterson, stated that when it became known that the Battalion was leaving Calcutta some of the men waited upon the Commanding officer and expressed their desire to take some steps to show their appreciation of the courtesy and kindness shown to them by the Free Church of Scotland. And speaking from an intimate knowledge of the men of the Sutherland Highlanders, extending over 23 years, he knew that this wish was a spontaneous and heartfelt one, and the Officers and N.C.O's. heartily joined with them. They thought that they could not show their appreciation of all the kindness shown to them during their stay in Calcutta better than by presenting the Church with a Silver Communion Cup, which was an exact copy of the Regiment's own Church Cup presented to it in 1813. In asking Mr. Horn to accept it on behalf of the Church, Major Mackenzie expressed the hope that if this Battalion of Sutherland Highlanders might not be privileged to use it, that some day the First Battalion would come to Calcutta and meet with the same warm welcome as the 93rd had received.

The presentation of a Marble Timepiece to Mrs. Parker, and of a Bible to Mr. Horn as marks of esteem and respect from the men and officers, was made the occasion for alluding to their respective efforts to make the meetings so sucessful. Mr. Horn briefly returned thanks on behalf of the Church and delivered a message received from Rev. D. Reid, with regard to the personal tribute to himself. He assured them that the Bible would be handed down to his children as a most cherished heirloom. Mr. J. F. Parker returned thanks on behalf of Mrs. Parker and spoke of the education it had been to many to come into closer touch with their soldier friends and how much their presence would be missed from the services on Sunday. At the close of the gathering Mr. Horn called for hearty thanks, which were expressed in no unmistakable terms, for Mrs. Bushnell whose services as accompanist had been of great value, and to Mrs. Parker to whose successful management of the commissariat, and attention to the artistic arrangement of the Hall, the greatest credit was due, and also to Mrs. Hamilton with whom the idea of the meetings had originated, and to Mr. Hamilton who had contributed very generously to the expenses. "Auld lang Syne" was sung with a will, and the National Anthem closed a meeting which from beginning to end was a distinct success.

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The I. O. G. T.—On Thursday night the good people of Hastings and their friends witnessed a very interesting ceremony of the I. O. G. T.—The institution of a new Lodge. The "Pride of Sutherland" greatly added to their numbers since removing to the Seamen's Institute at Hastings, and as most of them will be going with the Regiment to Poona, those who are to remain in Calcutta, about thirteen in number, formed themselves into a new Lodge. There were six others who joined the Lodge the same evening, making a total of nineteen. The District Deputy, Mr. Kotlingham, after initiating the candidates for membership, asked the Lodge to nominate and elect their officers, when among others the Rev. Charles Grant, M.A., and Mrs. Grant, and the Rev. U. A. Lash, M.A., and Mrs. Lash were elected to office. The newly chosen were then installed as officers of the "Fair Havens" Lodge which was duly instituted by the District Deputy, with the authority vested in him by the Grand Chief Templar, after which the Rev. Mr. Grant offered an earnest prayer for blessing on the new Lodge, and the Lodge leaving the station. Tea and light refreshments were then served, followed by an excellent Musical Programme under the Presidency of Brig. General Leach, C.B. D.S.O. Comdg. the Presidency District. The Rev. Mr. Lash acted as Vice-Chairman. The Institute Hall was packed to its utmost capacity, there beingseveral standing outside for want of room. The programme consisted of a Pianoforte Duet by Mrs. Gorrie and Mrs. Longely, songs by Pte. McCreath, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Allan, Gunner Paris, Mrs. Gorrie and Mr. Bailes, Sword-dance and Highland Fling by Piper-Major Lynch, Club swinging by Pte. Harper, Recitations by Mr. Owens, a Mutiny veteran, and his daughter, Mrs. Topham, and Comic Songs by Privates Burns and Brisland, who took the house by storm. The various items on the programme were indeed excellently rendered. The Brigadier-General then rose and thanked the Rev. N. A. Lash, Lodge "Sutherland" and those who took part in the evening's Programme in a few well-chosen words. He regretted the departure of the Highlanders and expressed the views of several that Calcutta's loss was Poona's gain. The Brigadier-General then asked the audience to join with him in singing the ever new "Auld Lang Syne" which was followed by "God Save the King-Emperor," when the meeting was brought to a close.

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The Boer War.

Notes from my Diary.

By No. 6547, Private John Macdonald.

(Continued from page 90.)

On the 20th September, we passed Barbeton on our right and camped that night after a march of sixteen miles. We were off again next morning at the usual hour, and soon after leaving camp came within sight of Nelspruit. There we found that the Battalion had left for Pretoria the day before, and after staying there two days, we got orders to entrain and pick up the Regiment. About this time we were all hopeful that the Boers would cease fighting, as we practically held the railway line from Cape Town to Portuguese territory, and all the principal towns in the Free State and Transvaal. Most of our time in Pretoria was spent in being fitted out with new clothes, shoes, etc. When we had received our clothing we again moved off to Reitfontein, a place well known to us. We stopped there the night and then marched on to Bokfontein, where the Battalion was split up, one half going on with the Brigade and the other half remaining under the command of Major Gordon, to repair the telegraph wires. On the 1st October, we set off again, with the telegraph party, but the work was terribly slow. All the wire was cut everywhere and scattered in all directions. As we were marching along we came across a Dutch boy, carrying a basket, who said, that he was taking it out to his father on the hills, close to, so we took him along with us and arrived at Krondal. We had to be very cautious as we knew the Boers were watching us. It was here that we lost two of the Volunteer Company. They had gone out without arms or ammunition to collect fire wood and the Boers shot them through the heart, after they had surrendered. Next day we picked the Brigade up at Rustenburg. On the 9th October we marched to Wolverkop and handed over an empty convoy to some Volunteer Companies, who took it on to Reitfontein. The 15th saw us again on the Rustenburg road, marching to Starkstroom, where we camped for the night. While we were lying here, we received a message from some kopjes close at hand that "all was clear," sender's name Major Oliver; however, as none of our officers knew the name, they thought it must be a Boer ruse, but as it turned out, we afterwards discovered that a party of Mounted Infantry had sent the message. At Rustenburg we settled down for a bit and everyone seemed bitten by the brick craze; everyone started putting up some sort of brick shelter to save themselves from the storms. We all expected to remain here for a few months, but on the 28th half of the Battalion and the head quarter staff joined Broadwood's Brigade and again proceeded on "trek." After some fighting with the Boers, in which we had some casualties, we arrived at Oliphant's Nek, where we heard that part of a convoy going to Rustenburg had been attacked by Delarey. Knowing that some of our companies were with it, we were anxious to hear the details. General Broadwood went to their assistance at 1 a.m. that night and we followed later on with the baggage. We arrived at Krondal at 7 a.m. and waited for orders. At last an orderly came from General Broadwood, stating that the first section of the convoy had been captured. We then received orders to march to their assistance so we marched to Buffle's Poort, about 12 miles away. Delarey did not proceed very far with his spoil, as on the 7th December our cavalry came in contact with the enemy and managed to recapture all the wagons and supplies which had been lost. We then marched back to Krondal and halted there for the night, some companies going straight on to Rustenburg. Our time in Rustenburg was chiefly spent on outpost duty, and as a matter of health to and to give us a change, we changed posts about once a fortnight. As the Boers were practically all round, we had to be very much on the alert. Telegraph communication was opened up with Commando's Nek, so we were not so badly off for news. We spent our New Year on Commando's Nek, and I can assure you it was a pretty dull one. We managed to get up some sports in the river and some splendid exhibitions of swimming were seen. We had an open air concert at night, and so started the New Year, still on active service, and no signs of the war coming to an end. On the 18th January the West Yorkshires left Rustenburg, so that left us to hold Oliphant's Nek and Rustenburg ourselves. The Boers were now becoming very bold, and on the 1st February a small party swept down and lifted some of our cattle in front of the outposts. We were unable to do much, as they kept pretty well out of range. However the Australians went after them and although they did not succeed in capturing the cattle, they managed to kill two of the Boers. On the 3rd April, the Norfolk Regiment arrived and relieved us of our duties, and on the 6th we marched out of Rustenburg, to the regret, I think, of all the Civilian population. All the Regiment was now together again, so we marched off and arrived at Pretoria on the 10th, where we were refitted with clothing and had new blankets issued out. As we had not received any mails for about three months, the lines were strewn with our papers and old clothing, but we were not long in getting everything tidy again. On the 12th April we again left Pretoria and arrived by rail at Bronkhorspruit, where we stayed the night. Next day we arrived at Nuddleburg, about 150 miles from Pretoria, not very quick travelling you will admit, but the traffic on the line at that time was something tremendous.

(To be continued.)

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Home and Depot Notes.

A marriage has been arranged and will shortly take place between Captain C. W. H. Bell, late 93rd Highlanders, eldest son of Mr. C. W. Bell (late 15th Hussars) of Highgreen Manor and Otterburn Hall, Northumberland, and Frances Isabel Logan, eldest daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. Logan (late Royal Scots) of Kennedy House, St. Andrew's.

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Captain H. A. MacDougall Williams, late 91st Highlanders, has been gazetted Captain in the 3rd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

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A marriage has been arranged and will shortly take place between Captain G. W. Muir, 91st Highlanders, only son of the late Sir William Muir, K. C. B., of Blackheath, Kent, and Mina, third daughter of Colonel Cuninghame, (late 11th Hussars, and 4th Bn. A. & S. H.) Belmont, Ayr.

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The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Association held the annual dinner commemorative of "Balaklava" on Friday, the 23rd October.

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The Ninety-First have been drawn against the 2nd Bn. Grenadier Guards in the first round of the Army Cup. The first round is to be played on or before November 21st. The best wishes of theNinety Third go out to their comrades of the First Battalion for a highly successful season in the football field, and in any other branch of sport they may enter for during their residence at Longmoor.

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The following interesting cutting is from the *Paisley and Renfrewshire Gazette* :—

PRESENTATION TO A LUCKNOW VETERAN.

Last Friday night a few old friends and well-wishers of Mr. William Galbraith Lang, who is on a visit from America to his native village, Kilbarchan, met in the Masons' Arms to honour him on the occasion of his again returning to the land of his adoption. Mr. Lang's first military experience was in the Renfrewshire Militia during the Crimean War. With the view of being sent out he volunteered into the 92nd Highlanders. Peace being proclaimed, he again volunteered into the 93rd to go out to China, but on arriving at the Cape they were at once ordered to India along with Sir Colin Campbell. He was at the Relief of Lucknow, and took part in other engagements. At the close of the mutiny he bought his discharge, but shortly afterwards enlisted in the 4th Queen's Own Hussars ; but peace being too monotonous for him he went out to America, and along with another Kilbarchan young man joined the First Maine Cavalry. Both being thoroughly trained soldiers, were at once sent to the front and took part in several engagements. Lang's young comrade was shot through the heart while charging a battery of Confederate Artillery, while Mr. Lang was seriously wounded. He is at present in possession of a very handsome pension from the American Government. Mr. Malcolm Neil, an old comrade, was chairman at the meeting and presented Mr. Lang, in name of his old friends, with a handsome copy of the entire works of Burns, a copy of Semple's edition of Tannahill's Works, along with two books of Scottish songs set to music. On the front page of each is inscribed —"Presented to Mr. William Galbraith Lang as a token of esteem by a few old friends and well-wishers, on the occasion of a visit to his native village, Kilbarchan, after an absence of over forty years in America, with their best wishes that he may have a safe voyage home to the bosom of his family, that his life may be long spared, and that no sorrow attend his days and no grief disturb his nights. May the pillow of Peace kiss his cheek and the pleasures of imagination attend his bed, and when length of years makes him tired of all earthly existence, may the angels of God attend his bed and take care that the expiring lamp of life shall not receive one rude blast to hasten its departure." A handsome walking-stick was also presented to Mr. Lang, along with the volumes. After a very pleasant evening, spent with song and sentiment, the company all joined in singing "Auld Lang syne."

DEATH OF A CRIMEAN VETERAN.

Many in Perth will learn with deep regret of the death of Private John Duff, late of the 93rd Highlanders, which took place at his residence at St. Ann's Lane, Perth, on Sunday night. Private Duff was one of the Thin Red Line. He enlisted on the 17th January, 1852, and was discharged on 26th November, 1863. Deceased was one of the few remaining veterans who took part in the Crimean war. He was present at Alma, Balaklava and Sevastopol. Private Duff was also in the Indian Mutiny, and was present at the capture of Lucknow. He was an enthusiast in all things military, and he prized nothing more valuable than the Crimean medal. In the Indian Mutiny the deceased was wounded three times. Of a genial and kindly disposition, nothing delighted him more than to talk of his soldiering days, and many were the interesting stories he had to tell. During the late war his interest was intense, and age alone prevented him from being once more fighting for his country. On the occasion of His Majesty's recent visit to Edinburgh Private Duff was present, and was much pleased with the recognition then taken of the veterans. The deceased was for the long period of 38 years employed by the Messrs. Pullar, and was held in high esteem by his fellow workmen and employers. A Conservative in politics, he took a great interest in all the questions of the day. He is survived by a widow and six of a family, for whom much sympathy is felt in their bereavement. The funeral, which is public, takes place to Wellshill Cemetery to-day.

The above cutting from a Scottish paper recording the death of another old veteran of the "Thin Red Line" was received from Sergeant Major Doig, late 91st, who also enclosed some additional information respecting the deceased. Sergeant Major Doig says "The record of deceased, given to the Marchioness of Tullibardine for publication in the muster roll of Perthshire, is entered as Sergeant John Duff. He was in possession of 3 medals viz:— Crimean, with clasps for Alma, Balaklava and Sevastopol; Turkish Medal; and Indian Medal, with clasps for relief and capture of Lucknow. The deceased veteran was 108 years of age at the time of his death which took place on 13th September. His regimental number was 2699.

(A reference to "Burgoyne's Historical Records" shows that deceased was wounded during the operations before Lucknow, between 12th and 22nd November, probably during the attack on the Secundrabagh.—Ed.)

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Letters to the Editor.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—I wonder if any of your readers can give me the words of a song entitled the "Kiltie Lads"?

I used frequently to hear it sung, along with many another rousing soldier ditty, in my old Militia Regiment seven and twenty years ago. It described the deeds of the various kilted Regiments but with the exception of a few lines anent the "forty twa" and the verse telling of the "Thin Red Line," all the words have slipped my memory.

The verse I mention ran: —

Sir Colin Cam' ell kent fu' weel
The 93rd wis true as steel,
So up he set them in a raw
At Balaklava, kilts an' a'.
The Roosian horsemen charged them then,
Oor lads stood straight like Hielandmen
An' gied them sic a shoor o' leed
They a' ran aff that wisna' deed.

And the chorus was

Hurrah, hurrah for the kiltie lads
Wi' tartan plaids an' white cockades;
Oh, when you meet them in a spry
Stan' oot the road an' let them by.

I should be glad to know the remainder.

PRO. REGE.

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To The Editor "Thin Red Line."

SIR,—I enclose you P. O. Order for Rs. 3, as subscription for "Thin Red Line," for twelve months including November issue of 1902. I was just made aware of your periodical's existence by Colonel W. Gordon-Alexander, late of the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, who sent me a copy of last May's issue where much interesting matter is seen by those indirectly concerned in the welfare of so distinguished a Corps. You will find me at the address as above.

I joined the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders (from the Depot then at Aberdeen) in camp at Umballa in 1859 preparatory to escorting the Governor General, Lord Canning, with Sir Colin Campbell as Commander-in-Chief, on a tour of visit to all the loyal Rajahs in the N. W. P. after the memorable Sepoy Mutiny of 1857-58. A Durbar was held at Umballa in February 1860, when the 93rd formed the "Guard of Honour" for His Excellency and Lady Canning, at which the Rajah of Patiala was presented at Court, it was a most dazzling affair. The 93rd then escorted Their Excellencies to Umritsur and Lahore, where another Durbar was held much surpassing the first in splendour. After the service as Escort had been completed at the Camp in the latter station, the Regiment was ordered into summer quarters at Rawal Pindi. It remained there until October 1861, when it took its march to Peshawar, under Colonel R. L. Ross. It only remained in that station one season owing to cholera having made sad ravishes in its ranks. Many of the Crimean heroes who had three medals on their breasts fell victims to this plague. It was then ordered out to an isolated camp some ten miles from the city, but had scarcely been there three days when Major Middleton died from its effects. Colonel MacDonald took bad much the same time and he was also carried off after a few days' illness; many men also died at this camp. The Regiment then presented the appearance of a large travelling hospital as about seventy per cent of its strength was in hospital. Many of the sick were sent to Cherat and were the first to form a camp there, one part of the camp at this place was officially known as "Sutherland Hill." The change from the hot plains to the cool higher climate did everyone a vast deal of good. The sick were then able to walk down the hills and rejoin Head Quarters at a camp off the Grand Trunk Road near Fort Attock. After this period of sickness everyone went through, the Regiment was ordered to proceed to Sealkote, where it remained until 1866 when it took its march to Jhansi, a distance by route march of some 670 miles. In those times there were some long and a few short marches, such as 18 miles being considered a long march. It arrived in Jhansi in the early part of 1867, and sent a Detachment of three Companies to Sepree on the Indore Road. We had no railway travelling then, all changes of Troops from one station to another station was done by march only. The Regiment remained in Jhansi until the fall of 1869 when the welcome news was received that the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders were to proceed to Cawnpore by route march and train from that station to Deolali and embark on board the Troopship "Jumna" for transportation to Suez en route to Portsmouth. On arrival at Suez, it disembarked and took train over the Desert—the Canal not being then opened for traffic—to Alexandria. At this place it embarked on board the Trooper "Himalaya," the same vessel which conveyed the 93rd to the Crimea. It was a pleasant passage from Alexandria to Portsmouth, where orders were awaiting that the Regiment was to proceed to Aberdeen, leaving Detachments at Stirling and Perth. Later on a company was sent from the Detachment at Perth to take charge of Fort George, there being no troops there except a few men of the C. Brigade. After a stay there of twelve months we joined Head Quarters in Edinburgh Castle in 1871, where we enjoyed the beautiful sights of "Modern Athens." All went well there for about eighteen months when orders were re-

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ceived that the 93rd was to leave for Aldershot. The company B which was sent out to Glencorse on Detachment duty, along with H company, were both ordered to Aberdeen, Captains W. Gordon-Alexander and S. E. Wood, to form the 56th Brigade Depôt together with two Companies of the 92nd Gordon Highlanders. I was Colour Sergeant of B Company under Captain W. Gordon-Alexander. I remained in Aberdeen until completing twenty-two years' service and retired with the rank of Sergeant-Major of the 56th Brigade Depôt. In the interval when stationed in Aberdeen I made periodical visits to the old Corps with drafts of recruits from the Depôt. Subsequently I rejoined the Army and entered the Commissariat and Transport Corps as Barrack-Sergeant-Major when I was placed in charge of the Barracks at Lichfield, where I discharged my duties to the entire satisfaction of the Officer Commanding the 38/64 Regimental Districts and all others who had dealings with my department. I then finally retired from the Army with my rank of Barrack-Sergeant-Major, after having completed upwards of four years' service at Lichfield and York. Counting all branches I served in, I have about 29 years' service, my retirement being dated September 1887. I was well known in the 93rd, having gained the favour of all the officers under whom I have served, particularly that of Colonel W. Gordon-Alexander and General W. McBean, V.C.

My Regimental number 491 is still I daresay to the fore. I will always be glad to hear anything of the good old Corps.

Yours very truly,
ALEXANDER ROSS.

98, *Menzies Street, Victoria,*
British Columbia,
18*th November* 1902.

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To The Editor "Thin Red Line."

SIR,—In last month's "Thin Red Line" under the heading "Home and Depot Notes," I see it stated that either Lieut. General Burroughs or Colour Sergeant J. Hutton was entitled to the honour of "Father of the Regiment"; but neither can lay claim to that title, for there is now living at No. 115 Gallowgate, Aberdeen, Private James McAskill, who enlisted in the 79th on 24th April 1838, and was transferred to the 93rd on 1st April 1841, and proceeded to join the Regiment in Canada in a draft from the Depot in 1842, and returned to this country with the Regiment in August 1848. He served through the Crimean and Indian Mutiny Campaigns, and is in possession of the Crimean, Turkish, Indian, Mutiny and Good Conduct Medals. He and Private Duguid (who is a much younger man than McAskill) are the last of *the* "Thin Red Line" alive in Aberdeen, for, although there are three or four Crimean pensioners of the old Regiment living in Aberdeen, McAskill and Duguid are the only ones who fought in the ranks on the memorable day of Balaklava. McAskill was a "Light Company" man, but was in the ranks of the "Grenadier" Company at Balaklava, he being at the time servant to Lieut. John Gordon who died at Futtegurh during the Mutiny. McAskill was born in the 93rd (his father being a Private in the Regt. at the time) on 8th November 1819, and will therefore be 84 years of age on the 8th of next month. He may justly be called a "Son" as well as "Father of the Regiment." The old man is comparatively hale, well set up, and smart in appearance. He has a pension of 1s. per diem and an allowance of £8 per annum from the "Kinloch Fund." He takes a great interest in the old Regiment, and comes to me regularly for the loan of the "Thin Red Line," which I receive from my son who is in the Regiment. I, of course, am equally interested in all that pertains to the grand old "Rories," as I may say with truth that some of my happiest days were spent in the Regiment.

It may interest the "young ones" to know that we have living here Colour Sergeant David Morton, who is particularly mentioned by Forbes Mitchell in his "Great Mutiny," in connection with Tobacco Soup, and a room full of loose gunpowder at Lucknow, into which Forbes Mitchell unwittingly entered, carrying a lighted candle in his hand.

34, Grosvenor Place,
Aberdeen,
21st October 1903,

I am sir,
Yours faithfully,
WM. MCKAY.

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To The Editor "Thin Red Line."

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—The enclosed letter, which I hope you will find space to publish in your next issue, was received by me last mail from my old friend Watson, late Pte. in the 93rd Highlanders of glorious memory. He served in the Crimea and Mutiny. He often visits at my house. I gave him new ribbons and a bar for his medals (4). These he had on when he helped to line the streets in Edinburgh when His Majesty was there last May. He is one of the nicest old soldiers I have ever come across, and like all past and present 93rd men, is a credit to that good old Corps.

Yours faithfully,
A. F. MACKENZIE.

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SIR,—I beg to acknowledge with thanks receipt of copy of the "Thin Red Line." Its perusal reminded me of old times.

You will be pleased to hear that I spent a most enjoyable day on the occasion of the veterans' parade before His Majesty in Edinburgh Castle

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The new ribbons with the aid of the silver bar gave the medals a fine appearance. I had the honour of returning from the Castle as far as the Soldiers' Home with Colonel Middleton, who as you may probably be aware is to preside at the Balaklava Dinner in Glasgow on the 23rd. I was at a grouse drive on the County Ball day with Sir James Sievewright and Colonel Hunt's guns, and you may be interested to know that the bag was better by 10 brace of grouse than on the same occasion last year. Occasionally I call at Queensgate to enquire about you, and am always pleased to learn that you are keeping in good health.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN WATSON,
of the old 93rd.

Balaklava Cottage, Cambusbarron,
Stirling, October 11, 1903.

—:o:—

St. Andrew's Church, Calcutta.

FAREWELL ENTERTAINMENT.

The keen kindly rivalry, which lasted all the time we were in Calcutta, between the Social Committees of the Auld Kirk and the United Free Kirk was brought to a close by the Social of St. Andrew's Church on the evening of the 12th October in the large and commodious hall of the Young Men's Christian Association the church hall having for a number of months proved inadequate to hold the number of men of the Regiment who passed many happy evenings at the Socials. Every man of the regiment who was present received a very elaborately got up programme, and a very neat Book Mark enclosed as a memento of our sojourn in in Calcutta and the many happy evenings we spent in the Society "o' Yin o' oor ain." We cannot praise one more than another of the ladies and gentlemen who came there month after month; but as the genial secretary Mr. Walker of Dundee remarked to us "If ye hadna' been Scotchmen dae ye think I would hav' din it?" The programme was of the usual suitable style, something to suit the particular taste of every one. Lieut.-Col. Paterson, made a few appropriate remarks in presenting the few small souvenirs to the working committee including a Communion cup to the popular Padre, which will be kept in the church and will be handed down, and we have no doubt will be shown to every Scotchman that visits the church. Below is a copy of the programme.

Ceann na Drochaide bige.

PART I.

8 to 8-40 Tea.

	"The Athol Gathering" ...	*Pipers.*
SONG	"Mary Morrison ...	*Pte. Clarke.*
RECITATION ...	"Back to the Army again"	*Mr. G. H. Turton.*
SONG... ...	"I want to see the Old Home again"	*Mrs. McCann*
SONG... ...	"The Jovial Monk" ...	*Mr. W. T. Grice.*
VIOLIN DUET	"The Maiden's Prayer"	*Ptes. Dinwoodie and McKim.*
PART SONG ...	"My Love is like the Red Red Rose"	*Choir.*
SONG, HUMOROUS	"The Lass o' Killicrankie"	*Piper Burns.*
SONG... ...	"Down the Vale" ...	*Mrs. Lindquist.*
SONG... ...	"The Soldier's Song" ...	*Mr. S. Garrett.*

INTERVAL.

PART II.

PART SONG ...	"Hail to the Chief" ...	*Choir*
SONG ...	"I fear no Foe"	*Mr. J. O. Kidd.*
MADRIGAL ...	"Brightly Dawns our Wedding Day"	*Mesdames Harvey and McCann. Messrs. Ives and Melville.*
DANCE ...	"Highland Fling"	*Pipe-Major Lynch.*
RECITATION..	"How we beat the Favourite"	*Mr. G. H. Turton.*
SONG	"The Honeysuckle and the Bee" (by request)	*Mrs McCann*
SONG, HUMOUROUS	"The Village Blacksmith"	*Pt. Brisland.*
PART SONG...	"Goodnight" ...	*Choir.*

GOD SAVE THE KING.

—:o:—

Jalapahar Notes.

—:o:—

The Revd. Mr. R. Kilgour, who for many years has acted in the capacity of Military Chaplain to the troops stationed at Jalapahar Depot, and as a result of his labours has won a warm place in the heart of every soldier who has had the good fortune to become acquainted with him, was made the recipient of a handsome present from the Officers, N.C.Os. and men of the Detachment 93rd Highlanders, on the eve of their departure to Calcutta,

At one of the Revd. gentleman's happy little "At Homes," the gift, which took the form of a "Smoking Outfit" was presented by Private Steedman, who in a brilliant little speech thoroughly expressed the sentiments of the donors.

The Reverend gentleman who, by the way, hails "frae Glesca" and had quite a number of "townies" amongst his audience, replied in such a manner as to—if that were possible—still more firmly cement the comradeship already existing between himself and the 93rd Highlanders.

That it may be the good luck of all who have known the Revd. R. Kilgour in India to meet him again some day in the old country, is the earnest hope and also the desire of

"THE KING."

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Ninety-third Calendar for December 1903.

———:o:———

1 Tu.
2 W.
3 Th. March Sialkote to Jhansi, 1866; arrived Karnal.
4 F. All detachments in Cholera Camp rejoined headquarters at Hattee, near Campbellpore, 1862.
5 S.
6 S. Defeat of the Gwalior Contingent at Cawnpore, 1857.
7 M. Hattee for Sialkote, 1862.
8 Tu. Pursuit of the rebels on Bithor Road by Sir Hope Grant, 1857.
9 W. Rebels dispersed at Serai Ghât, 1857. Joined force of Sir N. Chamberlain in camp at the Umbeyla Pass, 1863.
10 Th Lieut. General Edward Parkinson, C.B., Colonel, 1852. March to Jhansi, 1866; arrived Delhi. Lieut. General Sir Henry William Stisted, K.C.B., died Colonel, 1875.
11 F. Lieut. General Freeman Murray, Colonel, 1875, Disaster to the Highland Brigade at Magersfontein, 1899; Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. J. Goff and Major Sidney Robinson, Formerly 93rd, killed at the head of the Ninety-first.
12 S. Martini-Henry rifles issued, 1874.
13 S. Tochi Campaign. Return of Maizar Column to Boya, 1897.
14 M. Arrived detachments, Barbadoes, 1823.
15 Tu. Left Wing, Shahjahanpur for Bareilly, 1898.
16 W.
17 Th. Arrived Barbodoes, 1823.
18 F.
19 S.
20 S. Lieut. Colonel S. Leith-Hay, C.B., retired 1860. Left Wing, arrived Bareilly from Shahjahanpur, 1898.
21 M. Arrived Barbodoes, 1823. Robert Lockhart Ross, C.B., Colonel, 1860.
22 Tu.
23 W. Bivouac near New Orleans, attacked in force by Americans who were repulsed, 1814.
24 Th 2nd Battalion, 93rd, disbanded, Sunderland, 1815.
25 F.
26 S. Lieut. Colonel H. Milling retired, 1822 (never joined). Hon. Sir Charles Gordon, Kt., to command, 1822.
27 S. Jhansi for Cawnpore *en route* to England, 1869, strength 21 officers, 449 N. C. O's and men.
28 M. First unsuccessful attack on New Orleans, 1814, New pattern bayonet issued, 1877, 4½ inches longer than formerly.
29 Tu March to Jhansi, 1866; arrived Agra.
30 W. Arrived Sialkote from Cholera Camp, Peshawar, 1862. This cholera epidemic resulted in 93 deaths.
31 Th

———:o:———

OFFICERS' BALL AT STIRLING CASTLE.

On Wednesday night Colonel Hunt and the officers of the garrison, Stirling Castle, entertained a large company to a dance in the Castle. Although it is fully fifteen years since a similar event took place in the Castle the officers showed that they had nothing to learn in the art of entertaining and of making their guests enjoy themselves. The ball was held in the Officers' Mess, and the whole suite of apartments adjoining were given up to the necessities of the entertainment. All the chairs and corridors were laid with crimson cloth. The main corridor leading to the ballroom was draped with broad bands of green and white art muslin, against which tall standard lamps with delicately-tinted shades, and groups of palms and other plants made a most attractive picture. Comfortable chairs and lounges completed an ideal resort for the dancers in their *tête-a-têtes* and periods of relaxation. While the guests were arriving a guard of honour was stationed in the corridor, the handsome Argyll and Sutherland uniforms adding yet another element of picturesqueness to the scene. The north corridor leading to the supper rooms was panelled in green and white, as were the two coffee rooms, the ceiling similarly treated. In the supper rooms, royal blue and crimson panelling on the walls gave a background which, by strong contrast, threw into relief the dainty white covered tables and shining crystal and silver. In the billiard room and suite of corridors and rooms on the south and east side, which were used as sitting-out rooms, the walls and ceilings were covered with huge flags. The ballroom itself was unadorned, save for the trophies and armour which impart to it its distinctive appearance. Queen Mary's boudoir, a picturesque room leading off the ballroom, was used as a sitting-out room, and relics of its royal mistress were displayed here and there. In an embrasured window in the ballroom the orchestra was placed. Banks of chrysantheums and palms filled the fireplaces. The guests, who numbered upwards of two hundred, began to arrive about ten o'clock, and were received at the entrance to the ballroom by Colonel Hunt and the other officers. Dancing began shortly afterwards to music by Herr Iff's Glasgow Band. Pipe music for the lightsome reels was provided by Pipe-Major Aitken and Corporal Thomson.

Among those who accepted invitations to be present were :—Lieut. Col. Alexander, Bridge of Allan ; Major Aytoun ; Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Burns ; Mr. Burn Murdoch, Gartincaber ; Miss Alice Burn Murdoch ; Miss Lorna Burn Murdoch ; Lord and Lady Borthwick, Ravenston Castle, Wigtonshire, and party, including Sir Duncan Hay and Mr, Dalrymple; Colonel Campbell of Inverardoch and Miss L. Campbell ; Mr. and Mr. Adair Campbell and party, including Miss Havemeyer, Miss Waterbury, New York ; Miss Gilmour, Woodbank ; Mr, Angus and Miss Campbell, Kilberry; Lieut. Cooper; Mr. G. and Miss Cuninghame, Belmont, Lieut.Colonel Duff and Officers, Black Watch; Captain Dundas, D.A.A.G. Captain, Mrs and Miss Fowler, Edinburgh ; Captain and Mrs. Duncan Glasfurd, and Miss Gilmour ; Miss Maclaine and Mr. K. Maclaine; Captain and Mrs. Maclean ; Miss Alice Mackenzie ; Miss Cecil Mackenzie ; Col. and Mrs. Middleton, Bardowie, and party, including Miss F. Stirling, Miss H. Stirling, Miss M'Dougall, Misses Thorpe ; Miss Rouse ; Mrs. Mitchell of Luscat ; The Lady Sophia and Miss Montgomerie ; Mrs. Morgan and Mr. A. Tweedie ; Captain G. W. Muir; The Officers, Gordon Highlanders ; The Officers Perth Depot ; The Officers, Ninety First Highlanders : Mr and Mrs. Paton ; Miss and Miss A. M. Paton, Viewforth, and party, including Mrs. Scales, Edinburgh; Captain Richardson, D.S.O.; Captain and Mrs. Stewart, Perth, Sir Charles and Lady Stirling of Glorat, and party, Miss Lena Stirling, Miss May Stirling, Hon. Voilet St. Clair, Miss Kennedy, Captain and the Misses Thorpe and party ; Mr. and Miss Trotter, Colinton. Captain and Mrs. Williams.—*(From the Stirling Sentinel.)*

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What the Parrot is saying.

—:o:—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

That he had twa left fitted legs.

That the cheapest supper ever he paid for he got it for nothing.

That he wis knocking about melodian wi' Edinboro' in his haun.

That ye can claim awa' wi' six years' service and nine abroad.

That the next new rifle we get is a bandolier.

That he wid like tae ken wha wis Adam and Eve's wife.

That ox-tail wis the best fish ever he tasted.

That the bearer had tae bring twa cups o' doorstep.

That the following invalids were allotted passage on the H. T. Plassey (Gate) sailing on the 24th inst.

That whit are ye daeing staunding lying kneeling there for?

That any mon foond oot o' bed when the alert goes wull be for the gaird room.

That the next song will be a banjo solo by Lieutenant Moneyand another.

—:o:—

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACT FOM THE "LONDON GAZETTE, DATED 18TH SEPTEMBER 1903,

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders)—2nd Lieutenant R. R. Forbes to be Lieutenant, *vice* J. B. McPherson resigned.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Pay Sergeant of "B" Company—No. 4841, Sergeant D. Ritchie, "G" Company.

To be Pay Sergeant of "Attached Section." No. 5219, Sergeant M. Sutherland, "H" Company.

To be Regimental Provost Sergeant.—No. 4841 Sergeant J. Ogg, "H" Company.

To be Garrison Provost Sergeant—No. 4983, Sergeant M. Rutherford, "H" Company.

To be Provisional Lance Corporals—No. 6009, Private D. Birrell "E" Company, and No. 4643, Private J. McGuire, "H" Company, dated 28th October, 1903; No. 7969, Private G. Stewart, "B "Company, dated 29th October 1903; No. 7716, Private F. Pledger, and 7977, Private A. Blackley, "H" Company dated 30th October, 1903; No. 8423, Private W. Ingram, "D" Company, dated 31st October, 1903.

To be Drummer:—No. 6834, Private J. Faichney "B" Company, dated 28th October, 1903

To be Assistant Instructors of Gymnasia:—

No. 5551, Private W. Montgomery, "E" Company.
,, 5908, ,, M. Mackenzie "G" ,,

To be Schoolmistress.

2nd Class Army Schoolmistress Mrs. A. Wheeler, to be attached to "B" Company.

To be School Assistant:—No. 8423 Lce. Corporal W. Ingram, "D" Company.

To be Piper:—No. 9216, Private A. Milton, "D" Company, dated 9th October, 1903.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 3d per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 4304, Private A. H. Hansen.

"C" Company.

No. 3214, Lce. Corporal G. Stanley.

At 2d per diem:—

"D" Company.

No. 4155, Private H. Wilson.

"F" Company.

No. 6259, Private A. Auchinvole.

At 1d per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 7622, Private T. King. | No. 6639, Pte. G. Russell

"B" Company.

No. 7995, Private J. McMahon.

"C" Company.

No. 7161, Pte. T. Edmonds. | No. 5755, Pte. J. Smith.
No. 5585, Private T. Brown.

"D" Company.

No. 4879, Pte. R. Baillie. | No. 7177, Pte. W. Reid.

"E" Company.

No. 5876, Pte. J. Candlish. | No. 6479, Pte. A. McFarlane.
No. 8151, Pte. J. Ross. | No. 5916 Pte. J. Bisland.
No. 5863, Private D. Gallagher.

"F" Company.

No. 7007, L./C. D. Gibson. | No. 6015, Pte. M. Harper.
No. 8157, Piper L. A. Planner.

"G" Company.

No. 6286, Pte J. Allan. | No. 6103, Pte. W. McKinley.
No. 6485, Pte. M. Nicholson. | No. 6172, Pte. F. Eite.
No. 5879, Private T. McGougan.

"H" Company.

No. 7567, Private. A. Dicker.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted Certificates for Supply Duties, dated 14th October, 1903:—

No. 6226, Private W. Hume, "D" Company.
,, 5656, ,, H. Dashwood, "C" ,,

Granted Telegraphy Certificate, dated 25th September, 1903:—

No. 7220, Private W. Harrison, "B" Company.

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Granted 2nd Class Educational Certificates, dated Jalapahar, 17th September, 1903.

No. 7969, Private J. Stewart, "B" Company.
,, 8137, ,, R. English, "B" ,,
,, 8989, ,, A. Madden, "F" ,,

Dated Fort William, 29th September, 1903,

No. 6851, Corporal E Brett, "C" Company.
,, 7624, Lance-Corporal. J. Perrie, "C" ,,
,, 7226, ,, J. Downs,, "C" ,,
,, 5117, ,, S. McVea, "C" ,,
,, 6613, ,, C. Donaldson, "C" ,,
,, 7543, ,, N. Halliday, "B" ,,
,, 5394, ,, J. Ross, "D" ,,
,, 8182, ,, H. Griffiths, "G" ,,
,, 4761, ,, A. Bowe, "H" ,,
,, 7897, Private F. Fletcher, "B" ,,
,, 5284, ,, A. McIntyre, "B" ,,
,, 5044, ,, J. McMahon, "C" ,,
,, 8423, ,, W. Ingram, "D" ,,
,, 7459, ,, G. McNair, "E" ,,
,, 5724, ,, J. Lamb, "E" ,,
,, 5811, ,, M. McGinlay, "E" ,,
,, 5906, ,, D. Fyffe. "G" ,,

Dated 24th October, 1903 :—

No. 5694, Lance-Corporal J. Blake, "D" ,,

Granted 3rd Class Educational Certificates, dated Fort William 29th September, 1903 :—

No. 4696, Lance-Corporal. B. Harris, "B" Company
,, 3214, ,, G. Stanley, "C" ,,
,, 6053, ,, G. Ray, "F" ,,
,, 7931, ,, A. Medley, "F" ,,
,, 6237, ,, A. Hogg, "F" ,,
,, 9190, Drummer E. Lees, "H" ,,
,, 8790, Boy J. Holland, "A" ,,
,, 5308, Private J. Lowe, "C" ,,
,, 6943, ,, D. Morrison, "G" ,,
,, 6877, ,, R. Calderwood, "G" ,,
,, 6106, ,, J. Blackie, "G" ,,
,, 7487, ,, R. Waller "H" ,,
,, 7724, ,, R. Bond. "H" ,,

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' Service :—No. 4721, Sergeant T. Wylie, B. U. L.

To complete twelve years' service with the colours :—

No. 6295, Lance Sergeant W. Alder, "H" Comypny.
,, 6834, Drummer J. Faichney "F" ,,

To complete eight years' service with the colours :—

No. 5685, Lance Corporal F. Morrison, "A" Company.

INTER-COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 6834, Dmr. J. Faichney, "B" to "F" Company.
,, 8287, Pte. J. Quin "A" to "H" ,,
,, 6160, ,, L. McCarthy "G" to "E" ,,

ATTAINED 18 YEARS OF AGE.

No. 8157, Piper L. A. Planner, "A" Company.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

The Number "9278" to Private J. Murray, "B" Coy.

TRANSFERRED TO ARMY RESERVE IN INDIA.

No. 4514, Private P. Park, "A" Company.
,, 5844, ,, J. Burns, "A" ,,
,, 5885, ,, W. Morrison, "G" ,,

STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

Discharged by Purchase on Payment of £18 :—
No. 7658, Private A. Murdoch, "F" Company.
Transferred to 64th Battery, R. G. A. :—
No. 6865, Private W. Grevatt, "H" Company.

Domestic Occurrences.

BIRTH.

Marshall—At Jalapahar, on 17th August, 1903, the wife of Private T. Marshall, "G" Company of a son—Robert Henry.

MARRIAGE.

Newell—Shrimpton—August 18th, at the Congregational Church, South Bar, by the Rev. W. B. Simpson, Corpl. David George Newell, Ninety Third Highlanders, eldest son of the Rev. D. Newell, U.S.A. to Florence Martha, elder daughter of S. Shrimpton, 13, High Street, Banbury.

———:o:———

Subscriptions.

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions :—

Lieut. Colonel Gordon-Alexander ...	...Rs.	6	5 0
Captain Moulton-Barrett	.. ,,	6	0 0
Captain Bell	... ,,	10	8 0
Corporal Stevenson	... ,,	4	0 0

———o———

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following :—

"The Thistle" ... ... for June.
"St. George's Gazette" ... ... ,, August.
"The Dragon" ... ... ,, September.
"The Oakleaf" ... ... ,,
"The A. S. C. Journal" ... ... ,,
"The Die-Hards' Doings"... ... ... ,,
"The Sapper" ... ... ,,
"The Queen's Own Gazette" ... ... ,,
"The Globe and Laurel" ... ... ,,
"The Tiger and the Rose" ... ... ,,
"The Green Howards' Gazette" ... ... ,,
"The Indian Volunteer Record and Military News" ... ... ,,
"The Suffolk Gazette" ... ... ,,
"St. Andrew" ... ... Quarterly.
"The Aldershot News" ... ... Weekly.
"The Military Mail" ... ... ,,
"The Stirling Sentinel" ... ... ,,
"The Oban Times"... ... ... ,,
"The Rothesay Express ... ... ,,

———o———

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XCII

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THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Battalion (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 8—Vol. IX.] POONA—DECEMBER, 1903. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

A GUID NEW YEAR to all our readers, and may we often again have the pleasure of expressing so genuine a wish.

∴ ∴ ∴

We are this month reviving an old custom in the history of the "Thin Yin" by printing, in the body of the paper, a reproduced photograph by way of enlightening its pages. The last time that this was done was in the issue dated October, 1894, but we hope that in future our readers will send us photographs from time to time for reproduction. The photo which appears in our pages for this month was lent by Messrs. F. B. Stewart and Son, whose premises are at the bottom of our lines, and from whom photographs of many views in and about Poona may be procured.

We have to perform the pleasant duty of congratulating Captain H. H. G. Hyslop on his engagement to Miss White, daughter of Mr. Claude White, Joint Commissioner of Sikkim.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

The "Thin Yin" has been honoured by special mention in a paragraph in a recent issue of the "*Army and Navy Gazette.*" It is not often that a paper of its standing finds room for notice of one of the more humble of service journals, and the "Thin Red Line" hastens to acknowledge the compliment.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

The Bombay Presidency Rifle Association Meeting with which the last fortnight of the month was taken up, and in which many of us figured —not so much in the prize lists as on duty at the firing points and targets—was brought to a successful conclusion by the presentation of prizes on the afternoon of the 28th, by Lieutenant General Sir Archibald Hunter, K.C.B., D.S.O. An account of the meeting, in which we were spared more disappointment than we should otherwise have felt by the repeated successes of our friends of the Seaforth Highlanders, who carried all before them, will be found in our columns this month.

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The weather during the month has been all that could be desired. During the day a cool breeze,

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often even stronger than necessary, has relieved the heat of the sun which would otherwise have been much felt, while at night an overcoat has been been more a necessity than a luxury. Several cases of colds and fever have followed on the neglect to keep warm at night, and a cold, once it has taken root in the system, is a thing not to be easily shaken off in such a climate.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

Captain Marshall is on his way out to rejoin Head-Quarters, after quite a long absence on sick leave. We hope to find that he is completely restored to health, as he had been ailing for some time before he obtained leave last cold weather.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

Lieutenant Langton, our pioneer of motoring with the Regiment, has now exchanged his motor bicycle for a car to seat three. That it is a complete success is evident from the amount of work he gets out of it, and from the lack of failures which have hitherto attended him. We hear rumours of the probable arrival of another of these undoubtedly popular modes of conveyance. Captain Bell set the fashion in the Regiment by driving a car frequently in Stirling, when he was at the Depot before he left the service.

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The Grenadier Company have been indefatigable during the month in searching out the best places for manœuvres round Poona, while doing their annual course of military training. At first the great difficulty was to find some way of circumventing the spear grass, which has a most aggravating habit of finding its way through most parts of one's clothing and even through the skin, but now we are seldom seen out for a field day, or even on the range, without a stout pair of spats, which although not a preventive are certainly a very good check on its penetrative qualities.

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"A" Company have finished their annual course of musketry, and the rolls show that the new system of classifying by results on the new rapid practices makes it a matter of much more difficulty to attain the higher standards of shooting. Out of 91 who performed the course 5 were marksmen, 36 first class shots, 28 second class, and the remaining 22 humble third class shots. On the completion of the Bo. P. R. A. Meeting, "B" range was secured on loan from the Native Infantry, and two Companies, "B" and "C" were at once struck off to perform their course. The Maxim gun detachment have also been down to the Range to try their skill with our latest acquisitions.

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We propose shortly to publish a statement of the "Thin Red Line" accounts for the last year, and in future to allow our readers, who are, indeed, the owners of the paper, to follow its financial career by publishing the quarterly accounts as soon as they are audited by the quarterly board. We hope this will help to keep up the lively interest which is being shown by all connected with paper, both subscribers and advertisers, to whom the thanks of the Staff of the "Thin Yin" are so much indebted for their support. We hope also to be able, with the sanction of the Commanding Officer, to publish a statement of one or two other funds, such as the Regimental Sports Fund, which cannot fail to be of interest to all members of the Battalion.

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Our numbers were augmented, on the 6th November, by the arrival of a draft of 78 N.C.O's. and men from the Ninety First. They were brought out by Major Buchanan, of the Royal Scots. Although there are a few old faces among them, most of them are new to us, but if they justify their appearance as a whole, and uphold the character they bring with them, which was specially endorsed by Major Buchanan, they will prove a valuable addition to the NINETY THIRD.

Sergeant Ferrier, who joined with the draft has the distinction of possessing the Distinguished Conduct Medal, in addition to his King's and Queen's South African Medals.

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It is with the greatest pleasure that we acknowledge a letter from such a fine old soldier as Colour Sergeant Hutton, one of the Heroes of the Crimea, and one of the few surviving landmarks upon whom the NINETY THIRD of the present day look with such admiration and respect. Anecdotes from the pen of such as he, written in a hand which is far from being such a "scrawl" as he makes out, and indeed would do credit to one with half a century of years less to his name, come as a glimpse into the past which awaken the deepest feelings of honour for the Regiment and pride of the veterans who helped to make its name. Mr. W. Forbes-Mitchell, whose acquaintance some of us had the pleasure of making in Calcutta, is another of these great links, and he writes that he hopes in a short time to be able to send some more stories for publication in the paper which attempts as far as possible to keep alive the old sentiments, and we hope that we shall soon receive a contribution from him. A letter from Captain C. W. S. Lowndes, with which the Editor has been honoured, is also printed in our columns in this month, and will be read with interest.

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Colonel Middleton writes that the oldest soldiers present at the Balaklava Dinner were Private Cobb (of the Grenadiers) 1841, Colour Sergeant Hutton, 1847, Private J. Stirling, 1849, Bugler

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Fulton, 1851, Colour Sergeant A. Christie, 1852, and Private Maxwell, 1853. We have placed the names of those who were not on it before on our list for "complimentary" copies of the "Thin Yin," which we hope they will duly receive. Colonel Middleton also encloses a letter from General Burroughs, giving some reminiscences of Balaklava, which, with his permission, we are glad to publish, but which for want of space we have been compelled to hold over. They cannot fail to be of the greatest interest, and we beg to tender our thanks to General Burroughs for the peep into the diary which he kept at the time. We trust that that veteran officer will eventually give the public the benefit of a record of such value as the manuscript must be.

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Lieutenant Forbes and 2nd Lieutenant James have returned from their six months' leave home.

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We hear that Captain Glasfurd returned to Somaliland in November, quite recovered from the ill effects of his fall from a camel, and is organizing No. 4 Somali Camel Corps, of which he is to be in command. Captain Malcolm is with the "Tribal Horse," an irregular Somali Mounted Levy.

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Band-Sergeant Hall, Sergeants Watt and Gilbert, Lance Sergeant Greenland, Corporal Gifford and ten Privates have left for England on transfer to the Home Establishment. Private Reid, who is among the transferred will be a great loss to the athletic circle. For many years one of the most noted athletics of the Battalion, "Steenie's" tall and smart-looking figure will be much missed at the annual games and elsewhere. It is hard indeed to realise that the well set up soldier who has just left was the oldest soldier serving with the battalion, and had followed the colours at home and abroad for over twenty years. We wish him and the others the best of luck wherever they go.

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In addition to the transfers to the Home Establishment the Battalion is poorer by the departure of no less than nineteen twelve years men to England for discharge. Including fifteen transfers to the Army Reserve and eight invalids, the Hired Transport "*Assaye*" which sailed on the 13th November bore off no less than fifty-eight N.C.O.'s and men of the Regiment—a huge slice indeed in the ranks of a battalion for one ship to take away.

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Colour Sergeant Tyndall, Lance Corporals Walker and Stratford embarked for home furlough for six months on the 4th November. We wish them a pleasant time during their well earned holiday.

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British soldiers transferred to the Army Reserve will in future be allowed to remain in India if they obtain suitable employment, and guarantees for their passage home will not be exacted from them, the State remaining liable for their passage during the period of Reserve.

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Proposals for the adoption of the Wolseley pattern helmet for the British troops in India are before the Government.

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Quarter-Master-Sergeant James Gunn, lately Orderly Room Sergeant, has left us on receiving an appointment as Sergeant-Major at Mount Abu Depot. We wish him every success on the Staff, and confidently anticipate it as his excellent qualities are sure to be appreciated. His departure from the Regiment is much regretted by all, and is only tempered by the knowledge that it is for his advancement.

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A School of Cookery is being organized in India whereat N.C.O's. and men may qualify as trained cooks. The nucleus has been laid in the centre of our barracks, Wanowri Lines, where the building is in process of construction.

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What the Parrot is saying.

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[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

That it is twenty-seven meenits gane wappy.

That he has nae brains.

That ye are tae wear your gong wi' your medal after retreat at night mounting gaird.

That it wis awfu' like Dan.

That the abbreviation wis "wl" and ye can leave out whiteffer "l" ye like.

That Pinkie wis oot twa days yon nicht.

That Joe thinks twa ruppees is better nor Company Shot.

That they chaps for BAKRI HILL can fa' doon stairs the noo

That he dressed in the Lancs tae gang doon tae the kilt.

That he wis firing wi' his foresight on.

That he wis i' ma tent gaen doon i' the train.

That he could shove mair pockets i' the red ball at shell out.

That he sent IMI *Sender* and got *Campbell*.

That he had tae fire wi' the sicht protector on before he wid hit the tairgit.

That he thocht they wis' shooting rabbuts

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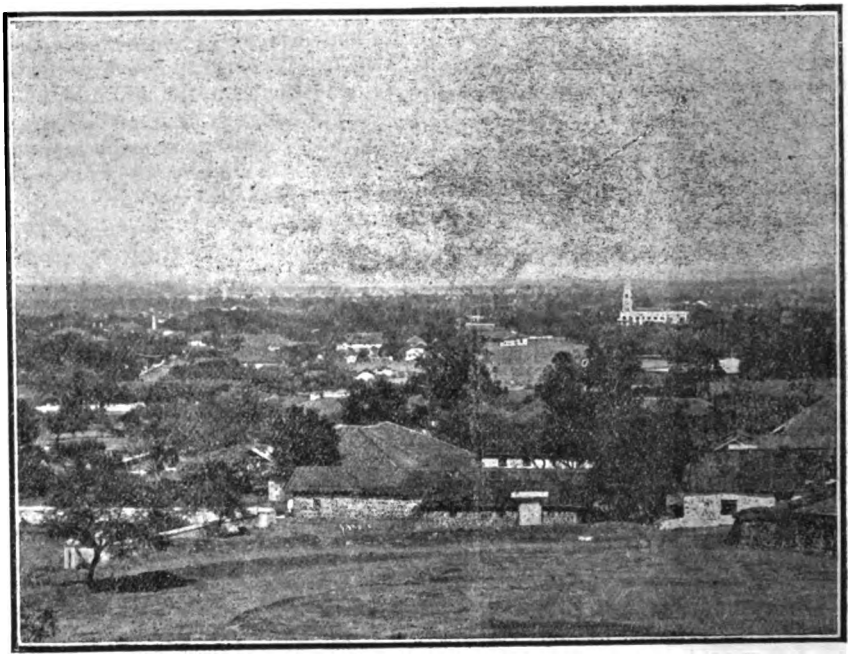
Poona.

Before proceeding with a description of modern Poona it might perhaps be of interest to give a short outline of the history of the Deccan capital prior to its coming into the hands of the British in 1817.

The name Poona refers to the holy meeting of the rivers Mutha and Mula, on whose banks it has sprung up. Its trade position on the main approach to the Bhor Pass marks it as likely to have been an early settlement, though its origin is wrapt in obscurity. Tradition says that in 613 A.D., Poona, a hamlet consisting of Brahmins and fishermen, was in existence, and from that early period the Jain cave at Bamburda and the Ganeshkind Hill cells are dated. It grew by degrees apparently to a small city, which in 1290 A.D. fell into the hands of the Mussulmans, who fortified the city. The rise of the Mahratta Bhorsla family, who made it their head quarters when no Moghul army was in the vicinity, increased the importance of Poona. Sevaji, the celebrated Mahratta chieftain, received his early education here, and many of his notable exploits were performed in the vicinity. One of his exploits, the one of all his actions of which the Mahrattas still speak with the greatest exultation, was his night attack on the commander of the Moghul army at Poona. It appears that Sevaji, having done something to incur the hostility of Aurangzib, the then Moghul Emperor, an army under Shaista Khan, the Emperor's uncle, marched into the Mahratta country, drove Sevaji's army out of the field, and finally took up position at Poona, within twelve miles of Singhar, the hill fort into which Sevaji retired. The Moghul commander, unfortunately for himself, chose the house in which Sevaji had passed his earlier years; and it was probably owing to this fact that a plan suggested itself to the daring Mahratta chief for chastising the intruder. Every precaution had been taken by Shaista Khan to guard against the advance of the Mahrattas collectively or individually into the city, and it is small wonder that with his troops camped around him the Moghul thought himself secure from attack. However, Sevaji, who knew everything that was passing, thought otherwise. He left Singhar one evening after dark, and, posting small bodies of his troops on the road to support him, went on with twenty-five followers into the town. He gained admission to the town by joining a marriage procession, having previously arranged with its conductor to further his plan. Having thus passed within the line of guards, Sevaji proceeded direct to the house, and entered by a back door before any one within had received an inkling of the danger impending. So completely was Shaista Khan surprised that he had barely time to escape from his bed-room, and received a blow from a sword which cut off two of his fingers as he was letting himself down from a window into the court below. His son and most of his attendants were cut to pieces in a moment. Sevaji's retreat was as perfect and as rapid as his attack. As he retired his supports on the road joined him, and the whole party ascended to Singhar amidst a blaze of torches that made his triumph visible from every part of the Moghul camp. This exploit had far reaching consequences, for Shaista Khan, imputing his danger to treachery on the part of another Moghul General who had been sent to reinforce him, quarrelled with the latter, until dissensions so crippled the army that it became incapable of further effort



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to reduce the Mahrattas to submission, and was withdrawn.

The period between 1662 and 1720 was an eventful one for the city which was disputed, ravaged and plundered by Moghuls and Mahrattas in turn. The consolidation of the Mahratta government under Balaji Wiswanat—the founder of the Brahmin dynasty of Peshwas—gave the sore tried city a much needed rest, and under Baji Rao, the second Peshwa, who governed from 1720 to 1740 the city prospered and grew and became a great centre of commerce. In 1739, Captain Gordon, a British envoy to Satara, probably the first European to visit Poona, reported on the wealth and flourishing condition of the city, now the capital of the Mahratta Empire.

A continual record of strife, in which the great Mahratta leaders, Sindhia and Holkar, figure prominently, mark the annals of Poona towards the latter part of the eighteenth and during nearly the whole of the first and second decades of the nineteenth century. The repeated treacheries of Baji Rao evoking the hostility of the British, the Mahratta power received its death-blow in the battle of Kirkee on November 5th, 1817, when 2,000 British troops decisively defeated a Mahratta host of 33,000 men, and restored peace and order in the capital of the Deccan. Except during the Mutiny, when some signs of disaffection were shown, the record of Poona, since the reign of the last Peshwa was terminated at Kirkee, has been one of progress and prosperity.

Since the opening of the railway in 1860 the trade and prosperity of Poona has increased greatly, and being within five hours' journey of Bombay harbour its commercial importance is not likely to deteriorate. The principal occupations of the city are metal work in copper, iron and brass, the weaving of silk and cotton cloth, the manufacture of gold and silver threads, clay figures, etc., etc. The brass industry is a very ancient one, and, although supporting over 3000 persons, appears to be a hereditary occupation.

The city and cantonment are situated on the right bank of the Mutha River in a slight hollow. On the west it is bounded by the river, on the north by the joint Mula and Mutha, on the east, by the tributary Bahiroba, and on the south and south-east by the uplands and slopes that rise to the Singarh hills. To the north and east stretches a dry and barren looking plain; to the west the Bamburda hills rise to their central peak Bhabava, and to the south is the temple crowned hill of Pabatti, and behind it the wild and picturesque Singarh-Bhuleshwar range. The western part of Poona is the native city; the central contains the public buildings, European shops and dwellings, while the Eastern, and newer portion, is occupied by the Cantonment.

Poona is most easily described by dividing it into the three portions just mentioned, viz: City, Civil Lines, and Cantonment.

The city stretches out for about a mile and three-quarters along the right bank of the Mutha, and consists of three portions:—The city proper, or central part, dating from the Mahommedan and early Mahratta days; the western portion consisting of suburbs founded in the times of the Peshwas, and the more modern eastern part which dates from the beginning of British rule. Two main streets divide the city and the remainder is a labyrinth of narrow streets and lanes. Trees are planted in some of the streets, and the buildings being of great variety and style, some few of them being four storied, have a picturesque appearance in spite of their general dilapidated condition. Under Mahommedan rule, from the thirteenth to the seventeenth centuries, the military portion of the city was enclosed by a mud and brick wall, which is called the *Juna Kot*, but very little of it now remains. The wall was built by Jemadar Barza, an Arab, who was the first commandant of Poona, and only the soldiers and a few Mahommedan settlers were allowed to live inside it, the Hindu portion of the community living outside to the east. The building of a wall which was to enclose the whole city was commenced under the third Peshwa, but the project was afterwards abandoned as the Peshwa feared that the strength of the wall might tempt the commandant of Poona to suffer the city to stand a siege, instead of retiring to the hill fort of Purandhar.

(*To be continued.*) A. L.

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If I work for 1 year at the rate of 22s a week, pay 12s a week for board and lodging, how much surplus. 52 weeks at the rate of 22s. a week is £57 4s. Deduct 12s. a week for board and lodging is £31 4s. Leaves balance £26. From £26 deduct £10 for clothing and—etc. etc. Leaves £16. Add to this £9 2s. 6d., Reserve pay, Leaves balance for to spend £25 2s. 6d.

If I sodger for a year at the rate of Rs. 38 per month I save Rs. 30 per month for 12 months, or Rs. 360, £24. Of course you have your kit to keep up, and the chance of breaking out and making a shandy—*so I am going home.* (The foregoing lucid profit and loss account, which was picked up after the party had marched off, seems to have marked the turning point in the career of a well known figure in the last T. X. draft. The decision he arrived at seems to be sound, if he has a safe 22s.)

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Bo. P. R. A. Meeting.

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The Annual Meeting of the Bombay Presidency Rifle Association took place on the Poona Ranges from the 18th to the 28th November. Although we have not seen a rifle range since we left Ranikhet in 1901, and in spite of the fact that most people, so soon after our arrival in a new station, had so much to do that they could find no time for shooting, a few of us, some half dozen or so, determined that we would enter for the Competition, if only for the experience to be gained by attending a Rifle Meeting.

The ranges, which lie a few hundred yards from Barracks, were, of course, quite new to us, and the time for practice was too short to enable us to get to know them, and even at the end of the meeting we found that there was a lot still to be learnt about the wind and light. Consequently we figured but little on the prize lists. Sergeant Johnstone took the first prize in the "Scouting" Competition, with 25 hits. Lieutenant Langton won the first prize in the "Shikaree Stakes," Lieutenant Maclean being 3rd, and Sergeant Johnstone 4th, all with 10 points, the Seaforths not having been long enough in the country to know very much about shooting tigers. In the "Celerity and Precision Stakes" Corporal McKinley took first prize with 30 points out a possible 35. Sergeant Johnstone was 3rd in the Revolver Competition with 69 points out of 84. In the "Unlimited Entry" Matches Lieutenant Maclean appeared on the Prize List with 31 points at 900 yards, Lieutenant Maclaine and Sergeant Stobie with 32 points at 800 yards. In the "Championship" Sergeant Johnstone also secured a prize with 32 at 200 yards, and Corporal Stewart also appeared on the Prize List.

In team competitions the Regiment was only mentioned once, taking 3rd place in the N.C.O.'s Match at 500 yards and 1,000 yards with 198 points. The team was Sergeants Johnstone, Ingles and Stobie, and Corporal Stewart.

On the whole the competitors were well satisfied with the practice obtained, and we may as well add not altogether disappointed. It is to be hoped that with a year's practice and the knowledge of the Range which must ensue, we shall have a large entry roll next year, and should be in a position to give a better account of ourselves. Sanction has been obtained for the formation of a Rifle Club in the Regiment, which should be a great help to all ranks, and is sure to be extensively patronized.

A few points with regard to the general aspect of the Meeting are worth recording. First and foremost, the series of successes scored by our friends the Seaforth Highlanders, who had many representatives in the Association Camp, were a source of the most unqualified satisfaction to us all. As we did not hope to do much ourselves it afforded us the greatest pleasure to be able to congratulate them on winning the "Rosseter Memorial," shot for at 200, 500, and 600 yards by teams of three officers, the "Flank Guard" Contest won by a team of 1 N.C.O. and 10 men, and the "Extended Order" won by a team of six of all ranks, and shot in heats. Captain Marshall of the Seaforth Highlanders was selected to be Captain of the Army Team, who beat the Volunteer team, and Lieutenant Macfie secured the "Ladies Nomination" with 33 at 500 yards. Our friends nobly upheld the honour of the "Highland Brigade" and we are only sorry that we could not lend them more effectual aid. We will make up for this delinquency next time.

The weather was very trying all through, mist in the morning frequently kept us waiting on the firing points for more than an hour, and every day the wind rose about 11 a.m. and continued to blow with ever-varying velocity till 4 p.m. The sun too never shines on the targets, so the light is never first class. For these reasons the scoring all through was remarkably poor for a first class meeting. However the more difficulties that present themselves on account of the elements, the more enjoyable does Rifle shooting become—up to a certain limit, and this limit was never passed during the recent meeting.

The conduct of the meeting was, although from time to time complaints were heard against the delay in publishing results, or the changes, probably unavoidable, which had to be made, as satisfactory as could be expected, and the thanks of all are due to the Committee who undertook to see the thing through, and who succeeded in doing so to such effect.

A large staff of Range officers and Register keepers, of whom the great proportion seemed to have been formed from the Regiment, had the somewhat unenviable duty of assisting the Committee by day after day, from morning till night, enduring the heat of the sun, by no means to be despised even at this time of the year. The markers in the Butts too, of whom we formed our share, had a hard time of it, sheltered as they were from everything except Father Sol, and prevented from taking any but the most superfluous interest in the shooting. They have however the satisfaction of knowing that their efforts were by no means unnoticed or unappreciated by the competitors.

Sir Archibald Hunter, L.G.C., Bombay, closed the meeting on the afternoon of the 28th, by distributing the prizes to the successful competitors, in the presence of a large assembly.

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Home and Depot Notes.

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Mrs. Urmston, formerly Miss Burn-Murdoch, who was married to Lieut. Colonel Urmston, C.B. of the NINETY FIRST in June last, has been the recipient of handsome presents from the tenantry, tradesmen and merchants of Blairgowrie and Rattray. The presentation took place at Craighall the residence of Sir James Clerk Rattray, K.C.B., and about 200 of the tenantry and servants on the estate, together with the merchants of Blairgowrie and Rattray, were entertained to Luncheon.

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Colonel Middleton presided over the 49th celebration of Balaklava Day by the veterans of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in Glasgow. The chairman was supported by Colonel Trotter, Colonel Campbell, Major Macdougall of Lunga, Lieutenant and Quarter-Master Beattie etc. Sergeant-Majors Lindsay and Hardie, from the Depôt, Stirling, were also present, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

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Lieutenant A.L.C. Clarke, of the NINETY FIRST qualified at the recent competitive examination for admission to the Staff College, and will enter the College in January.

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The following is from the "*Stirling Sentinel*" :—

ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND MEMORIAL HOME.—By the kindness of Mr. Wm. Hunter, Evirallan, Victoria Square, the soldiers attending the Home, to the number of 40, were entertained on Thursday evening to tea and afterwards to a most delightful musical programme. The performers were mostly lady friends of Mr. Hunter's, interested like him in the welfare of the home, assisted by several members of the garrison, who contributed piano solos and most amusing comic songs. The entertainment was greatly enjoyed by the men, who, on being called upon by Mr. J.W. Campbell, hon. treasurer of the Home, accorded a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hunter and his friends for the very pleasant evening they had all enjoyed. The following is the programme :—Piano solo, Private James; song, Miss Cameron; chorus song; violin selection, Miss R. Cameron; song, Miss Hughes; song, Sergeant Paton; song. Miss Cameron; song, Dr. Guthrie; chorus song; song, Miss Hughes; violin selection, Miss R. Cameron: song, Mrs. KcLanan; song, Dr. Guthrie; song, Miss Hughes.

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The annual dinner of the 4th (Stirlingshire) Volunteer Battalion Officers' Mess was held at the headquarters, Princes Street, recently. Lieut. Colonel King presided and amongst others in addition to the officers of the Battalion the following were present.—Colonel Hunt, Commanding 91st Regimental District; Captain and Adjutant C. A. H. Maclean, Captain Denholm and Lieutenant and Quarter-Master Beattie.

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Lieutenant F.G. G. Cunningham, from half pay, has been gazetted Lieutenant, Supernumerary to the establishment, with precedence next below Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean.

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Some remarkable shooting took place in connection with the annual grades match of the Queen's Edinburgh Volunteers at Malleny Ranges, Edinburgh, recently. The officers, sergeants, corporals, and privates each supplied teams of ten. The conditions were the King's first stage, and the sergeants won with the splendid total of 975. The corporals scored 956, the privates 954, and officers 939, Sergeant Ommundsen, the first King's Prizeman, scored 104 out of a possible 105. There was one score of 102 and four of 100 points. The average of the forty marksmen was 95·6.

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N. C. O's. and men who are recommended for courses of instruction at the School of Gymnastics, Royal Military School of Music, and Master Tailors course at the Royal Army Clothing Factory, must in future, if they have over two years' service, signify their willingness, if selected, to extend their service to eight years with the colours, and those with over three years' service to extend to twelve years. Such extension of service must invariably be carried out before the individual proceeds to join for instruction.

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The following change in the Pay Warrant has recently appeared in Army Orders :—

"Non-commissioned officers and men of Our Infantry, when employed as Cavalry or Mounted Infantry, or as Artillery, may, subject to the approval of Our Secretary of State, have their pay made up to that of soldiers of corresponding rank of Our Cavalry if employed as Cavalry or Mounted Infantry, or of Our Royal Artillery if employed as Artillerymen. The pay of the non-commissioned officer doing duty as colour-sergeant of Mounted Infantry shall, however, be 2s. 4d, a day."

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The supply of artificial teeth to soldiers has been amended as follows. "A soldier not below the rank of Sergeant who incurs such loss of teeth as would otherwise cause his discharge as an invalid, may be provided with artificial teeth at the public expense, if, in the opinion of the medical officer, he will thereby be rendered efficient. Provision is also made for the case of soldiers who have lost teeth as a result of wound, injury, or disease directly attributable to active service, and to whom deficiencies may be made good at the public expense."

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It is understood that the decision of the Small Arms Committee last year to the effect that no wind guage was to be added to the new service rifle has, at the instance of the Commander-in-Chief, been revoked, and that the new rifle when issued will be found to bear that necessary improvement,

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An innovation has been introduced in the training of Militia that promises to be a decided success. Under the new conditions a man can enlist, do his drills, draw his pay, and live out of Barracks. The men drill up to about one o'clock, Then the rest of the day is their own, and they can spend it as they choose, so long as they are present on parade at the proper time next morning. This excellent arrangement allows them to escape from the monotony of life in barracks ; and as they are permitted to draw compensation for rations and messing, it is entirely their own fault if they are not properly fed.

Many of the men find that they can supplement their daily pay by working during their spare time, and, as only recruits of good character are allowed to enlist, this privilege is greatly appreciated.

The experiment is now being tried in the militia battalion of the Rifle Brigade stationed at Woolwich.

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The Chairman of the National Association for the employment of Reserve and Discharged soldiers announces that during the last eighteen years permanent employment has been secured for 18,000 out of the 24,000 registered during that period. Owing to depression in trade, bad weather, and perhaps a vanishing interest in the soldier, now that the war is over, applications for men have, of late been very scarce, and to make matters worse the number of candidates, owing to the present three years service system, is daily increasing—rather a dismal look out for the poor seven or eight years' man who is now anxiously looking out for a return to civil life from Indian Service, and who is probably hopelessly out of touch with his former trade or occupation.

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"You must find that impediment in your speech rather inconvenient at times, Mr. Barnes ?"

"Oh ! n-no ; every-b-body has his little peculiarity. Stammering is m-m-mine ; what is y-yours ?"

"Well, really, Mr. Barnes, I am not aware that I have any."

"D-do your stir y-your tea with your right hand ?"

"Why, yes, of course."

"W-well, that is y-your p-peculiarity ; most p-people u-use a t-teaspoon."

Soldiers' Barracks.

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1842 to 1850.

The barracks of the British Soldier in up-country stations in those days were different from the substantial and roomy constructions in which he is lodged now. It was Lord Napier who, as Commander-in-Chief, insisted on the question of the housing of the British Soldier being taken up on an adequate scale all over the country. Amongst the recollections of that great soldier and engineer must have been an incident, at a cantonment not very far from Karnal, which would have left an indelible impression on his mind. Ludhiana had been occupied as a military station a few years before the troops were moved into Umballa. On the conclusion of the Sutlej campaign the barracks there were assigned as quarters to the 50th foot—a regiment that had especially distinguished itself at Moodkee, Ferozeshahr, and Sobraon. Possibly the intention was to avoid giving a corps which had lost something like 60 per cent. of its strength in that hard fought war far to go ; but the Authorities had been warned that the quarters of Ludhiana were dangerous and unfit for habitation. The regiment nevertheless, entered them in March 1846. On the night of the 21st May, a severe dust storm set in, and down came the barracks. Fifty-one men, 18 women, and 29 children were picked out dead from under the ruins ; 126 men, 39 women, and 34 children were injured, a great number of them permanently or seriously. The battalion, reduced to about 350 men by its war losses, was virtually blotted out. The curious will find the details in the reminiscences of the once celebrated Mr. John Lang, who adds in connection therewith an ancedote that is worth recalling. The Colonel of a Queen's regiment serving in India wrote to a brother, who was an M.P., to beg him to bring forward the condition of the soldiers. "My dear George," was the reply, "your story would only be received with an ironical 'hear ! hear !' followed by a series of coughs, as though the subject had given the House a sudden chill and a very bad cold.....Find out some indigo planter who has been, or is supposed to be guilty of some sort of oppression toward a sable cultivator of the soil, and we will pretty soon grind his bones to make our bread ; but for Heaven's sake, and for the sake of the House of Commons, don't inflict upon us your British Soldiers."—*Pioneer Mail.*

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It is necessary to exercise care in selecting the Permanent Staff, because they do get some shocks to their nerves. Recently a recruit presented himself at the armoury with the request : "Ye might gie's some gun-cotton tae clean ma gun wi'."

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The Boer War.

:o:

Notes from my Diary.

By No. 6547, Private John Macdonald.

(*Continued from page 107*)

On the 26th April we marched off again and camped at De Waagen drift, the Munster Fusiliers joining us here. During our one day's halt here the Boers made an attack on our camp, and made things pretty lively for about half an hour. There were a good many of us down at the river washing, and as we had no arms with us, we were useless. We tried to get back to camp but in trying to do so, we found ourselves caught between two fires, so the only thing we could do was to get into any convenient hole near the water and wait until the attack was over. However our artillery soon shifted the Boers from their position. We again set off on our march and arrived at Reitfontein on the first of May, but unluckily we found we were just too late to come into touch with the Boers, as they left their position a few hours before our arrival. Owing to the amount of marching we had done for the last few days we made a halt. The different companies were thrown out, A and D companies going to a place called Houde Kraal, a dangerous looking place surrounded by hills, and C company was thrown out about a mile to the west of the camp to hold a drift the Boers were supposed to be going to cross. The mounted troops worked round the flank to try and drive them into us and were in some measure successful, but the majority of the Boers managed to break South. On the 6th of May we started off again, and on the 7th got into touch with the rest of the column at Reitfontein. On the 9th we received orders to join Colonel Benson's column at Belfast. We here saw our second Volunteer company, who were very anxious to join the Regiment, but at that time they could not be spared off the line. However the Commanding Officer promised them that he would have them as soon as possible. It was here that Major Urmston got the rank of Lieut. Colonel. On the 13th of May we entrained, arriving at Belfast the same day. On joining the column the Battalion was once more all together. The weather was bitterly cold here and I don't think many of us were sorry when we got on the march again. The column was composed of the 2nd Scottish Horse, two companies of Mounted Infantry, one battery of Artillery, two pom poms, one cow gun, one five inch gun and the Ninety First. On the 17th we left Belfast and marched South. At Noitgedacht farm, where we made a halt, we could hear the guns of other columns going off on our right and left, but so far the Boers had not troubled us, unless one mentions a little sniping. A few days after A, B and C companies took a convoy of sick and wounded prisoners and Boer families into Carolina, bringing back a full convoy of rations for the column. Leenport, Kranz Kloof, Carolina and Berkstroom were our next halting places. At the last place we had some difficulty with our transport, as owing to the nature of the country we could get it no further, so we had to march back to camp after a very trying time, amidst hills and ravines. The enemy having been cleared off the hills on the next morning, we marched into Carolina and handed our prisoners over to the Seaforth Highlanders. The column halted at Carolina until the 31st May. The following morning we marched to Bonnifoir. And there our mounted troops made a capture of some wild horses, and then amused themselves by trying to break them in. In the afternoon we had a very exciting half hour. After our arrival in camp the veldt caught fire and on account of the strong wind that was blowing, it was very quickly carried across our lines. We tried to stop it with our blankets, but it was of no use, the fire got in amongst us in spite of all our exertions. The fire tore down F and H companies' lines, burning everything and exploding the ammunition, which was flying about in all directions. One man was wounded in the side from a bullet. There was another fire in the Mounted Infantry lines, but we quickly got that under. After that we took precautions to burn a circle round the cook house fires. Machadodorp saw us on the 3rd June, and here we got our usual refitting. Also our mails. On the 8th we marched for Lydenburg. We arrived at Zwaart Kopjes on the 9th of June, and Badfontein on the 14th. We now knew that the Boers were holding the hills to the west and south of Lydenburg, so our column closed in towards them from the north and west, General Spens operating to the east and Colonel Douglas to the south of Crocodile River. We paraded on the 11th June carrying two blankets per man, three days rations for us being carried on mules. On the 12th June we climbed the hills without any opposition from the Boers. When we got to the top, we found the Boers on the other side of an absolutely impregnable position. Our scouts opened fire first and then we could see away to the west a white flag flying, but this only turned out to be a woman's laagar. I believe if we had been able to push the advance we should have made a good bag that day, but owing to our numerical weakness, Major Gordon decided to hold the hills and try and keep the Boers in the Kloof until we got reinforced from the column. On being reinforced, we advanced down the Kloof, but it was no easy matter descending, as some parts of it were almost perpendicular. Our howitzer battery now got into action, throwing their shells rather too near us to be pleasant, and

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we had to be very careful in our advance. We got to within 500 yards of the position, but as it was getting late, we received orders to return to camp, where we found no rations awaiting us. However as there were plenty of sheep knocking about we made the best of a meal off them. Next morning we again attacked the Kloof, but alas! with the exception of a few boxes of ammunition there was nothing to attack. We then went on to Lissabon, Reitfontein, Badfontein and arrived at Zwaarts Kopje. We were not here for long as we paraded next morning and marched to Houlboshfontein, after another awful bit of hill climbing. Apparently the Boers had left this place in a hurry as they left their dinners behind, which they must have been preparing when we came on the scene. On the 24th of June we marched to Loopfontein. On the 29th we arrived at Machadodorp, where we expected to entrain for Pretoria, in which place we hoped to get that well earned rest which we had been expecting about 12 months ago. However again we were disappointed. On the morning of the 3rd July we received orders to go out and surround a farm at which the Boers were supposed to be stopping. We moved out in extended order until daybreak, when we found that we were nowhere near the farm, however we pushed on for about another hour, only to find that the Boers had again fled.

(To be continued.)

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Argyll and Sutherland Memorial Home.

—:o:—

A letter, which we published in the October number, from Miss McInroy, dated from Bridge of Allan, and which was republished under a covering letter from the same lady in the "*Stirling Observer*," has called forth, among other comments, a strong letter to the "*Journal*" from Mr. J. W. Campbell, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Home. Mr. Campbell in his letter denies the statements made by Miss McInroy, and regrets that the letter should have been printed in the "*Thin Red Line*" without any previous communication with the officials of the Home as to the truth of its assertions. We would like to point out that the letter we published, so far from being intended to represent our opinion, unable as we are at this distance from the scene to form one, and which at any rate is strictly neutral as to any correspondence in our columns, was printed solely with a view of showing to what extent outside opinion may be carried, and of giving the officials of the Home an opportunity of putting those who take so much interest in the affairs of the Regiment in possession of the real state of the case. So far no advantage has been taken of the opening, and our readers, many of whom have to rely on our pages for the truth or otherwise of Miss McInroy's statements, have not been further enlightened. Mr. Campbell concludes his letter to the "*Journal*" however by saying that the proportion of the men at the Castle attending the Home is as satisfactory as could be expected. We take advantage of the opportunity to express our pleasure at this state of affairs and our hope that it may continue, and even, when the management has settled down, improve.

Ninety-third Calendar for January 1904.

1 F. Proclamation day. Estab. reduced from 55 Sergeants, 22 drummers, 1,000 Rank and File to 45, 22, and 800, respectively. 1817. Colonel W. M. Knollys relinquished command, 1879. Colonel E. D. H. Macpherson of Cluny relinquished command, 1884. Right Wing, under Major J. S. Napier, arrived at Nowshera from Mian Mir; 1896. Farewell inspection by Brigadier General Egerton, C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., Comdg. Tochi F. F. at Boya, 1898.
2 S. Cluny Macpherson of Cluny to command. 1879. Col. A. C. Nightingale to command, 1884.
3 S. Boya for Miran Shah, Tochi F. F., 1898.
4 M. Transports with Ninety-Third on board anchored in Table Bay, 1806.
5 Tu.
6 W. Landed Lospard Bay, South Africa, 1806, (35 men drowned by upsetting of a boat). Right Wing embarked H.M.S. "*Inconstant*" for Canada, 1838.
7 Th.
8 F. Defeat of Cape Dutch at Baluwe Berg by Sir David Baird, 1806 (2 men killed, 5 officers, 53 N.C.O's and men wounded). New Orleans, 1815; 5 officers, 120 N.C.O.s and men killed; 12 officers, 368 men wounded; 4 officers, 368 men missing. Embarked "*Tamer*" for Gibraltar, 1879.
9 S. First detachment ("E" Coy.) to Fort Attock, 1896.
10 S. Col. H. G. Moore relinquished command, 1888.
11 M. Lieut.-Col. W. S. Mills to command, 1888.
12 Tu.
13 W. "Guthri" draft arrived Nowshera, 1896.
14 Th.
15 F. Severe earthquake shock felt at Nowshera and throughout Northern India, 1899.
16 S. Centenary Games, Bareilly, 1901.
17 S. Disembarked Gibraltar, 1879.
18 M. Cape of Good Hope surrendered to Force under Sir David Baird, 1806. Left Miran Shah for India, Tochi F. F., 1898. Left Delhi for Fort William after Coronation Durbar, 1903.
19 Tu.
20 W. Re-crossed frontier to Edwardesabad (Bannu), Tochi F. F. 1898.
21 Th.
22 F. Arrived Fort William, Calcutta, from Delhi, 1903.
23 S. Left Wing embarked H.M.S. "*Pique*" for Canada, 1838.
24 S.
25 M.
26 Tu. "Tug-of-War" Shield won by "A" Co., 1898.
27 W. Embarked Plymouth for Malta, 1854
28 Th. Left Shahjahanpur for Fort William, 1902.
29 F. "*Inconstant*" arrived Halifax, N. S., 1838.
30 S. Arrived Fort William from Shahjahanpur, 1902.
31 S.

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Letters to the Editor.

To the Editor "Thin Red Line."

Sir * * * I enclose a cutting from last evenings "News," of our Annual Balaklava Dinner. I am also proud to inform you that the following are my seniors in regard to joining the Regiment: Private J. Cobb, joined in 1841, lives in Arbroath, present at the Dinner; Colour Sergeant J. Graham, Inverness, 1845; Drum Major J. Rattray, Pennycuick, 1846; Sergeant R. Douglas, Lodge-keeper at Atholl, 1846; your humble servant, 27th November 1847.

I had a short interview with your late Colonel Campbell, and I think very much of him. May he soon be in Command again. There were four Veterans present, who stood in the "Thin Red Line" 49 years ago. It brings back to me many old recollections, one of which I will give you—My comrade, George Maclean, had little English, belonging to Lochaber. He was a strong man, and true. I often wrote to his mother, giving particulars of her son, and we were great chums.

On that night of Balaklava I was out on outlying picquet. Cold, hungry and worn-out, I asked George to be sure and draw my ration of rum; and next morning on getting back in hopes of having a warm drink, I asked for it, when he told me—in Adam's language—that the Sergeant had put his own in the bottle first and mines on the top, and he drank the top to get at his own. So I was left rum-less, and finished off with a good Gaelic swear.

You scarcely can read this scrawl, my eyes being so dim. Wishing you all happiness in your next station.

115 Montrose St., Sir
Glasgow, Your obedient Servant,
27th October, 1903. James Hutton
(Late Colour Sergeant, 93rd Highlanders.)

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To the Editor "Thin Red Line."

Dear Sir,—In your "Thin Red Line" for September I see it stated that either Colour Sergeant Hutton or General Burroughs is the father of the Regiment. Last month I spent an hour with the Reverend W. P. Trevelyan. I cannot give you the date he left the Regiment [1841.], but Alexander Sebastian Leith-Hay got his company. The Revd. Trevelyan is in his 90th year. Of course the Regimental Records will tell you when hejoined. [4th Jan., 1833.] I gave a photograph of the Revd. Trevelyan to the Regiment, and it was in the Regimental Album when I left the Regiment.

There is Colonel Blackett also I fancy senior to General Burroughs. He left the 93rd for the Guards [Joined 21st Dec. 1844]. Colour Sergeant Hutton was colour sergeant of the company to which I belonged in Jhansi, some time in the sixties—his number was 2194. When I joined at Sialkot he was colour sergeant of No. 8 company.

Bexhill, Yours truly.
Oct. 29th, 1903. C. W. S. Lowndes.

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To the Editor "Thin Red Line."

Dear Mr. Editor,—I enclose you a letter for publication from the Revd. David Reid, which will, I feel sure, be of interest to your readers. I am sure it will interest the Battalion to hear that I received a letter this mail from our friend General Sir Charles Egerton in Somaliland. He goes to Madras to take up command after Somaliland is settled. He says at the end of his letter "please remember me to all old friends in the Battalion. I wish the Regiment were with me here." I know that his kind wish will be reciprocated, and when writing I shall say "Send for us, we are ready to start now, we guarantee to catch the Mullah." Captain Malcolm and Captain Glasfurd are already there.

Poona, Yours truly
16th Nov., 1903. A. F. Mackenzie.

Dear Major Mackenzie,—When I got back from Darjeeling I saw the cup which the officers and men of your regiment so kindly presented to our church.

In common with all who have seen it I greatly admire its chaste and unique design, and we all most warmly thank you for the generous and appropriate gift.

It was used for the first time at our communion last Sunday, and will be used on every such occasion.

The Kirk Session minuted their apprcieation of the gift, and instructed Mr. Horne to have a special box or case made for it.

I trust you all got safely to Poona and are liking the place.

Here our cool season has now quite set in.

With kind regards to Col. Paterson and yourself.

I remain
Your very truly,
David Reid.

The Editor "The Thin Red Line."

Dear Sir,—Referring to my letter addressed to the Editors of the leading Metropolitan morning and evening Journals, dated 29th July last, on the subject of the mutilated condition in which Lord Clyde's monument in Waterloo Place had remained *for more than sixteen years*, (!) and a copy of which you were good enough to reprint in the number of your periodical for September last, I have now the pleasure to inform you, for the information of old 93rd Officers and Men, that in consequence of the fresh publicity given to the neglect of the monument (to that old Colonel of the 93rd Highlanders), by my letter of July last, the department concerned has had the broken sword of the allegorical figure, therein referred to, replaced by a new one.

Faithfully yours,
W. Gordon-Alexander,
late 93rd Highlanders.

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CELEBRATION OF BALAKLAVA DAY.

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Although the attendance in the Trades Hall on Friday night was not so strong as it has been in years gone past, there was no falling away in the spirit which pervaded the meeting. Lieut. Colonel Middleton presided, and he was supported by Colonel Trotter, Colonel Campbell, Major Macdougall of Lunga, Captain Findlayson, Chief of Recruiting Staff; Dr. Hanson, and Lieut. and Quarter-Master Beattie. Sergeant-Major Lindsay, from the Depot, Stirling, called the roll, and although several gaps have been lately made in the ranks of those who stood in the "Thin Red Line" quite a number of hardy old veterans answered to their names, and had from their younger comrades an encouraging reception. The gallant Chairman was especially gratified at the notice taken by the King of several veterans of their regimental association whom he (Colonel Middleton) had had the honour to introduce to his Majesty while on his recent visit to Edinburgh. He likewise read apologies from General Sir John Ewart and General Burroughs, the latter of whom sent a few reminiscences of what he saw near Balaklava 49 years ago. Sergeant-Major Hardie, in a neat speech, brought Colonel Trotter to the front, who assured the veterans present that THEIR DEEDS WOULD NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. Speaking to the younger soldiers present, the gallant Colonel said that while there was a good deal being talked of now in favour of independent action in the field, he hoped they would still retain that splendid spirit of discipline as well as that determined cohesion which had done so much to bring credit to their arms in the old style of fighting. Sergeant-Major P. McDonald gave "Officers Past and Present," and Colonel Campbell, in reply, told his hearers that their comrades of the 93rd, in India, were getting along all right. They had had two years in Calcutta, but they were now in Poona, and he hoped that, in a year or two, they would be able to give them a warm welcome to Scotland. It was likewise mentioned by one of the speakers that the 91st, now at Aldershot, were likely to get a shift to Edinburgh. Sergeant McKinley, who, in a racy and forcible speech, gave "Our Guests and the Press," called the attention of his audience to the fact that next year (1904) was the Jubilee of Balaklava Day, and he hoped that they would all do their best to make the 50th anniversary of the fight a record success. With the help of a capable pianist, several well-sung songs, and a well-served as well as substantial supper, for which the proprietor of the Bank Restaurant was responsible, a real good time was spent. The supper was followed by a dance. (*From the "Glasgow Evening News," sent by Mr. J. Hutton.*)

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2ND VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

(From the Paisley and Renfrewshire Gazette).

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The annual conversazione and dance of the Paisley Volunteers at which the prizes won in the battalion during the year are presented, was held in the Town Hall last night, when there was a very large turnout of officers, non-commissioned officers, rank and file, and civilian friends. Among those present were :—Colonel Hunt, commanding the district ; Hon. Colonel Sir Thomas Glen-Coats and Lady Glen-Coats, Colonel Paton, Colonel Shanks, Colonel Lamont (1st Battalion), Colonel Miller, Major Cook, Major Brown, Major MacKean, Major Dobie, Sir H. H. Smiley, Bart, and others. An added wooden erection from the hall door to the street served to make a fine entrance to the hall, and the stairs and entrances were laid with crimson drugget.

At 8 p.m. the evening's proceedings commenced with dancing, and very pretty the scene looked under the electric light, the multi-coloured uniforms of the Volunteers presenting a pleasing contrast to the sombre black of evening dress. Nothing was so reminiscent of the scene as the lines from "Waterloo"—"A thousand lamps shone on fair women and brave men." Here, however, there was no distant boom of cannon to break in upon the jovial spirits of the gathering, the only break being the music supplied by the Battalion Pipe Band, which was inspiring in the extreme.

After four dances, the Pipe Band paraded the area of the hall, playing the "Pibroch of Donuil Dhu," after which the presentation took place. Sir Thomas Glen-Coats presided, and in a few words having relation to his connection with the Battalion, introduced Colonel Paton to make a statement with regard to the Battalion.

Colonel Paton expressed his estimation of the honour he felt in having command of the 2nd Battalion, and he was cognisant of the responsibility which attached to that command. He felt the difficulty there was in worthily succeeding such an important commander as Sir Thomas Glen-Coats. The Battalion had been handed to him in the best of working order, not only free from debt, but with sufficient funds to build and equip their new range. (Applause.) His best efforts would therefore be given towards maintaining the high standard obtained, and in upholding the efficiency and honour of the Battalion. He was glad to be able to intimate that arrangements for the new range were practically completed, and when the shooting season began again they hoped to have the range in good working order. What they wanted was cheap ammunition and plenty of it, so that every man would be able to handle his rifle to advantage. He hoped the Royal Commission now taking evidence would evolve something tangible in this direction. With reference to the uniform, the Colonel said he had made application to have a change, viz., that all the Battalion should wear the kilt. (Applause). The total strength of the Battalion on 31st October, 1902, was 907 officers and men, and at the same date in October, 1903, 864 officers and men, a decrease of 43. That was fairly satisfactory considering the new conditions. In shooting, they were ahead of last year in point of merit, having attained a standard of 69.2 in 1902, and this year 73.8, for individual shooting. In section shooting the standard of merit was 51.8, and this year 62.7, In 1902 they had 60 recruits, and the figure of merit was 123.8, as compared with 129.7 this year. In conclusion, he would like to thank the Press of Paisley for the notices and publicity they had given to Volunteer doings and to assure the Press that they appreciated the kindness. (Applause).

Colonel Hunt said it was the drill and training received in the Volunteer movement that enabled a soldier to use his rifle. So long as they had voluntary service they could fall back on the auxiliaries in times of emergency and danger, and it was therefore necessary that the anxiliary forces should be trained to the greatest advantage, to be in a position to reinforce with advantage the regular troops. (Applause). A great deal was now asked of the auxiliaries with regard to efficiency and range practice, but he felt sure that the utmost good feeling would prevail. It was the duty of each individual in the Battalion to do his best to bring fresh men in, and by such means keep up their good numbers. (Applause.)

The prizes were then presented by Lady Glen-Coats, only three in each competition, all the recruits' prizes being handed over, as it would entail too long a time to present the whole lot.

In the staff competition Sergeant-Major R. Mitchell, Colour-Sergeants J. Soutar and J. Symcox, all late 93rd men, were the winners.

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Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association.

Western Division, Scotland.

Annual Meeting of Stirlingshire Branch.

The annual meeting of the Stirlingshire Branch of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association was held in the Armoury at Stirling Castle on Wednesday—Her Grace the Duchess of Montrose presiding. Those present included Lady Orr Ewing, Lady Stirling of Glorat, Miss Stirling; Miss Fitzgerald, Alangrange, Bridge of Allan; Miss Guthrie Smith, Killearn; Mrs. Wade, Bellendean; Colonel Hunt, Stirling Castle; Captain Moulton Barratt; and Colonel Middleton, Bardowie Castle. Apologies were received from Lady Alice Shaw Stewart, and Mr. R. A. Hill S.S.C.

Her Grace, in submitting the report of the year's work, said—The work of our Association having now relapsed into its normal condition in times of peace, there is not much business to put before our meeting this year, but as at our meeting last October we had not the full report of the work accomplished in 1902 before us, I will just read out the report of the three divisions of the county for last year. In the Eastern Division, which includes the two towns of Falkirk and Larbert, 220 cases received assistance, at an outlay of £737 11s 7d. In the Central Division, including the town of Stirling, 186 families were assisted, at an outlay of £378 6s 8d; and in the Western Division only 61 cases required help, and £147 8s 9d was spent on these. Thus the total sum spent on help given to soldiers' families in this county during 1902 amounted to £1263 7s. (Applause.) Of this sum £679 16s was given to the relatives of men of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. (Applause.) Since last January the work of the Association has relapsed into its normal condition in times of peace. Lady Alice Shaw Stewart tells me that in the Eastern Division since 1st January only sixteen families have required assistance, and there are eleven cases on the books at the present time. In the Central Division fourteen families have received assistance, and there is only one on the books at the present time. The total amount spent in relief since 1st January is only £15, and the balance of funds remaining to the Division is £42 9s 9d. In the Western Division only three or four cases have been assisted. The balance of funds still remaining in this Division amounts to £104 13s. Now with regard to the collection of subscriptions this autumn you will hear from Colonel Middleton's report that we have quite sufficient funds to go on with, and therefore there is no real necessity to trouble much regarding subscriptions. At the same time, I think it would be a mistake to lose annual subscribers who are donors of £1 and 10s, and who would probably be quite willing to give a subscription this year, though it might be a reduced one. I feel if our annual subscribers drop off, it is very difficult to regain them again. I would therefore suggest, if it meets with the approval of the ladies present, that the secretaries of Divisions should apply this autumn as usual to all subscribers of 10s and £1, but that the associates in each Division, who have kindly taken so much trouble during the war in collecting small sums in their respective districts, should have a complete rest from their labours. (Applause.) We must recollect that even in peace times there are many ways in which this Association is intended to help the soldiers' wives—first of all, in times of sickness to pay for a nurse, or to pay doctors' fees, or change to a convalescent home, nourishing food, hospital charges &c., and the medical officer of a regiment has only to apply to the Secretary of the Division when such help is required for soldiers' wives. With your kind permission I would suggest that Mrs. Steel-Maitland should be elected a vice-president of the Association. (Applause) I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all the ladies present for their service during the past year, also Colonel Hunt and Colonel Middleton for their valuable assistance. We are also indebted to Mr. R. A. Hill who kindly acts as Treasurer for the Central Division, and our special thanks are due to the Secretaries of Divisions, as the chief part of the work falls on them. (Applause.) We must strive to maintain the interest in the Association, as we have now learnt its great value during the South African war, so we must always keep its machinery ready to be put in motion again whenever it may be required. (Applause)

The proposals made by her Grace were unanimously agreed to.

Colonel Middleton submitted the financial statement, which was approved.

On the motion of Provost Thomson, Her Grace was heartily thanked for presiding.

Relief given to dependents of Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

County,	Wives.	Children.	Other Dependents.	Amount £	Amount s.	Amount d.	Remarks.
Argyll ...	1	4	7	50	11	.....	1st and 3rd Batts. in
Ayr... ...	2	5	5	43	4	6	South Africa.
Bute... ...	.....	.....	2	17	13	.....	
Dumbarton ...	21	34	71	393	19	7	2nd Battalion in India.
Dumfries ,,	1	4	4	39	10	6	
Glasgow ...	114	248	94	944	10	7	
Kirkcudbright ...	.....	.....	1	2	10	.....	
Lanark ...	14	40	4	105	2	5	
Renfrew ...	80	174	62	790	16	3	
Stirling ...	84	142	36	679	16	.....	
Totals... ...	317	651	286	£3,067	13	10	

ALFRED MIDDLETON, Lieut.-Col,
Honorary Treasurer, S. and S. F. A.,
Stirlingshire Branch.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Officiating Sergeant-Major at Mount Abu Depot.
No. 2760 Quarter-Master Sergt. J. Gunn "C" Coy.

To be Orderly Room Sergeant.—No. 6145 Sergeant A. Macdonald, dated 6th November, 1903.

To be Canteen Sergeant:—No. 5864, Sgt. J. Brash, "C" Company, dated 9th November, 1903.

To be Regimental Gymnastic Instructor :—No. 5374, Sergeant C. Phimister, "F" Company.

To be Assistant Gymnastic Instructor :—No. 6295, Lance Sergeant W. Alder, "B" Company.

PAY OF RANK AND ESTABLISHMENT.

To be paid Lance Sergeants :—

No. 7734	L. Sergt.	A. Macdonald	"E"	Coy.	dated	9-11-03
,, 5838	Corporal	C. Fraser	"F"	,,	,,	4-7-03
,, 5678	,,	T. Scott	"C"	,,	,,	16-8-03
,, 2425	,,	D. MacInnes	"B"	,,	,,	17-8-03
,, 6202	,,	J. MacInnes	"E"	,,	,,	9-11-03

To be paid Lance Corporals:—

,, 5387	L. Corpl.	C. Munro	"A"	,,	,,	1-4-03
,, 7226	,,	J. Downs	"C"	,,	,,	1-4-03
,, 4761	,,	A. Bowe	"H"	,,	,,	1-4-03
,, 5031	,,	R. Mackay	"A"	,,	,,	1-4-03
,, 4000	,,	E. McConnell	"A"	,,	,,	1-4-03
,, 4531	,,	C. Armour	"A"	,,	,,	1-4-03
,, 4618	,,	J. Adams	"E"	,,	,,	1-4-03
,, 4543	,,	D. Finlayson	"D"	,,	,,	16-5-03
,, 5117	,,	S. McVea	"D"	,,	,,	16-5-03
,, 2106	,,	J. Ogden	"E"	,,	,,	3-6-03
,, 6613	,,	C. Donaldson	"C"	,,	,,	12-6-03
,, 4311	,,	A. Wight	"C"	,,	,,	4-7-03
,, 6237	,,	A. Hogg	"F"	,,	,,	4-8-03
,, 7007	,,	J. Gibson	"F"	,,	,,	16-8-03
,, 7931	,,	A. Medley	"F"	,,	,,	17-8-03
,, 5685	,,	F. Morrison	"A"	,,	,,	1-11-03
,, 8182	,,	H. Griffiths	"H"	,,	,,	1-11-03
,, 6248	,,	J. Murray	"G"	,,	,,	1-11-03
,, 7117	,,	C. Mulholland	"G"	,,	,,	1-11-03
,, 8200	,,	G. Macintosh	"A"	,,	,,	10-11-03

ANTEDATED APPOINTMENTS.

To appointment of Paid Lance Sergeant :—

No. 4058	Lce. Sergeant.	J. Buchanan	antedated to		1-4-03
,, 4878	,, ,,	J. Maclachlan	,,		27-4-03
,, 5945	,, ,,	A. Macrae	,,		3-6-03
,, 6202	,, ,,	J. MacInnes	,,		12-6-03

To appointment of Paid Lance Corporal :—

No. 5297	Lance. Corpl.	W. Kirkland	antedated to	1-4-03
,, 7507	,, ,,	R. Kean	,,	1-4-03
,, 7670	,, ,,	J. Brown	,,	1-4-03
,, 7159	,, ,,	D. McBride	,,	1-4-03
,, 7422	,, ,,	R. Swan	,,	1-4-03
,, 6213	,, ,,	A. Campbell	,,	1-4-03
,, 7438	,, ,,	J. Galbraith	,,	1-4-03
,, 7950	,, ,,	J. Hutcheson	,,	1-4-03
,, 5685	,, ,,	F. Morrison	,,	1-4-03
,, 8182	,, ,,	H. Griffiths	,,	1-4-03

To appointment to Piper :—
No. 9216 Piper A. Milton "G" Coy. antedated to 16-5-03

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance Corporals :—
No. 6070 Drummer J. Seaton "G" Coy. dated 18-11-03
,, 5944 Private D. Halley "H" ,, ,, 21-11-03
,, 5716 Bandsman T. McGeechan "F" ,, ,, 24-11-03
,, 5164 ,, C. Lewington "E" ,, ,, 27-11-03
,, 5551 Private W. Montgomery "E" ,,(while employed
,, 5908 ,, M. Mackenzie "G" ,, in Gymnasium.)
,, 5163 ,, J. Allan "D" ,, (while employed as Hospital Orderly.)
,, 6564 Private W. Jamieson "A"Coy. (while employed on the Regimental Police.)

To be Drummer :—
No. 8790, Boy J. Holland, "A" Coy., dated 17-11-03

To be Bandsman :—
No. 6486, Private F. Noble, "A" Coy., dated 2-11-03

To be Regimental Signaller :—
No. 5669, Private T. Chilton, "G" Coy. dated 1-11-03

To be Battalion Chiropodist :—
No. 3921, Private J. Blackwood, "C" Coy., dated 21-11-03

To be Assistant Prison Warder :—
No. 4436, Private W. Morrison, "F" Coy., dated 17-11-03

To be Acting Bandsmen :—
No. 5659, Private H. Darwood "C" Company
,, 7875, ,, J. Caldwell "C" ,,
,, R. Brown "B" ,,

To be Acting Pipers :—
No. 7507, Private R. Kean "A" Company
,, 7070, ,, A. Bain "A" ,,
,, 8039, ,, W. Campbell "C" ,,
,, 7222, ,, W. McDonald "E" ,,
,, 7223, ,, Kean "F" ,,

To be Acting Drummers :—
,, 7869, Private J. Wardrope "G" Company
,, 7784, ,, J. Stewart "A" ,,
,, 8909, ,, W. McLean "G" ,,
,, 7840, ,, D. McIntosh "E" ,,
,, 6207, ,, J. Prain "A" ,,

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"B" Company.
No. 4306, Private S. Brown.

"F" Company.
No. 4339, Lance Corporal F. Bracey.

At 2d per diem :—

"A" Company.
No. 5680, Private J. Getchell.

"B" Company.
No. 5065, Pte. F. Halkerston | No. 7808, Pte. W. Ferguson
No. 4663, Private W. Glass.

"C" Company.
No. 3987, Private J. Currie.

"F" Company.
No. 6072, Pte. R. Jamieson | No 5762, Pte. J. McEachern
No, 5960, Private D. Dinwoodie.

"G" Company.
No. 6342, Private W. Williamson.

"H" Company.
No. 4073, Pte. J. Gillon | No. 5903, Pte. J. Hamilton.
No. 6083, Private W. Miller.

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At 1d per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 6992, Pte. P. Moran | No. 7070, Pte. A. Bain.
,, 8179, ,, T. Campbell | ,, 8117, ,, E. Lynch.

"B" Company.

No. 5227, Pte. R. Hyslop | No. 7901, Pte. W. Brown.
,, 7171, ,, T. Vallance | ,, 7492, ,, G. Douglas.

"C" Company.

No. 8100, Pte. J. Clarke | No. 8171, Pte. J. Bell.
,, 5402, ,, J. Watson | ,, 8039, ,, W. Campbell.

"D" Company.

No. 7856, Pte. G.R. Smith | No. 8060, Pte. A. Crawford.

"E" Company.

No. 6491, ,, J. Herbert | No. 7222, Pte. W. McDonald.

"G" Company.

No. 7402, Pte. A. Patterson | No. 8200, Pte. J. McIntosh
,, 5079, L./C. D. Macgillivray | ,, 8135, ,, G. Thomson.
No. 8182, Lance Corporal H. Griffiths.

"H" Company.

No. 6789 Private J. Kelly | No. 6804 Pte. A. Lauchlan.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted a 2nd Class Gymnastic certificate, dated Aldershot, 1st September, 1903 :—

No. 7222, Private W. McDonald, "E" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service :—

No. 4841, Sergeant J. Ogg, "H" Company.

To complete twelve years' service with the colours :—

No. 5838, Corporal C. Fraser "F" Company.
,, 5678, ,, T. Scott "C" ,,

To complete eight years' service with the colours :—

No. 5827, Private J. Clarke "F" Company.
,, 5837, ,, W. Lawrence "F" Company.
,, 5790, ,, F. Williams "H" ,,

INTER-COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 9216, Piper A. Milton, "D" to "G" Company,
,, 6486, Bandsman F. Noble "A" to "G" Company.

CHANGE OF NAME.

No. 9259, Private W. Croll, "B" Company has been permitted to change his name to "William Fiddes."

TAKEN ON STRENGTH.

Transferred from the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, dated 23rd October, 1903, posted to "B" Company :—

Private R. Brown.

STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

Discharged on completion of twelve years' service :—

No. 4304, Private A. H. Hansen, "A" Company.

Discharged (his services being no longer required).

No. 8791 Boy F. T. Bennet, "D" Company.

TRANSFERRED TO UNATTACHED LIST.

For employment as a clerk in the Mobilisation Branch of Army Head-quarters in India :—No. 3531 Sergeant F. C. Marks, "C" Company, with effect from 12th March, 1903.

For employment as 2nd Class Sergeant Instructor in the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles :—No. 3775, Sergeant G. Forbes "F" Company, with effect from 5th October 1903.

TAKEN ON STRENGTH OF MARRIED ESTABLISHMENT.

Taken on the strength from 6th November 1903 :—

Jeannie, wife of, and James Alexander, son of, No. 7734, Lance Sergeant, A. Macdonald, "E" Company.

Annie, wife of, and James, son of, No. 7571, Lance Sergeant J. W. Balfour, "A" Company.

FURLOUGH.

No. 5960 Private D. Dinwoodie, "F" Company, from 25-11-03 to 25-12-03.

TROOPING CHANGES.

Embarked for England on the H. T. "Plassey" on 24th October 1903.

Invalids—No. 4885, Private J. Devlin, "D" Company.
,, 6336, ,, A. McKinnon "G" ,,
,, 7570, ,, W. Lamb "G" ,,
Purchase—,, 7582, ,, W. Downie "F" ,,

Embarked for England on the H. T. "Sicilia" on the 4th November 1903 :—

Furlough—No. 2735, Cr.-Sergt. J. Tyndall "B" Coy.
,, 4151, Lce.-Cpl. G. Stratford "E" Coy.
,, 3927, ,, W. Walker "A" ,,
Invalids ,, 5355, Private G. Downs "F" ,,
,, 7638, ,, A. Oram "F" ,,

Embarked for England on the H. T. "Assaye" on the 13th November 1903 :—

Transfer to Army Reserve :—

No. 5334,	Sergeant	W. Menzies	"F" Company.
,, 5589,	Lce. Corporal.	J. McLaren	"G" ,,
,, 6064,	Private	N. Campbell	"C" ,,
,, 3637,	,,	R. Graham	"D" ,,
,, 5589,	,,	R. Johnstone	"A" ,,
,, 5560,	,,	J. Laird	"C" ,,
,, 5595,	,,	A. McAlpine	"A" ,,
,, 5626,	,,	A. Mackenzie	"D" ,,
,, 5049,	,,	J. Rafferty	"A" ,,
,, 5585,	,,	T. Brown	"C" ,,
,, 5626,	,,	J. Early	"A" ,,
,, 5634,	,,	R. Haining	"F" ,,
,, 5540,	,,	D. Lamont	"H" ,,
,, 5598,	,,	J. Mitchell	"A" ,,
,, 5625,	,,	J. McGregor	"A" ,,

Time-Expired, twelve years.

No. 3214,	Lce. Corporal.	G. Stanley	"C" Company.
,, 4287,	Private	J. Boyle	"D" ,,
,, 4244,	,,	J. Cathcart	"H" ,,
,, 4194,	,,	A. Elliott	"F" ,,
,, 4306,	,,	S. Brown	"B" ,,
,, 4048,	,,	J. Diplock	"E" ,,
,, 4322,	,,	R. Easton	"D" ,,
,, 4313,	,,	J, Ferguson	"D" ,,
,, 4231,	,,	J. Fox	"F" ,,
,, 4050,	,,	G. Lilywhite	"G" ,,
,, 4102,	,,	F. Marklew	"C" ,,
,, 4292,	,,	R. Stirratt	"G" ,,
,, 4136,	,,	W. Thomas	"B" ,,
,, 4216,	,,	H. Whyte	"C" ,,
,, 4310,	,,	R. French	"C" ,,
,, 4237,	,,	J. Kellagher	"H" ,,
,, 4094,	,,	E. Mitchell	"F" ,,
,, 4168,	,,	T. Mansfield	"E" ,,
,, 4155,	,,	H. Wilson	"D" ,,

Invalids—

No. 5673,	Lce. Corporal.	J. Lang	"F" Company.
,, 7122,	Private	R. Bell	"H" ,,
,, 7745,	,,	J. Cownie	"F" ,,
,, 6138,	,,	J. McBride	"A" ,,
,, 6723,	,,	J. Waddell	"H" ,,
,, 7427,	,,	R. Burns	"D" ,,
,, 6665,	,,	J. Smith	"A" ,,
,, 7584,	,,	J. McCready	"D" ,,

Purchase :—

No. 7090,	Private	A. Macdonald	"G" Company.

To Home Establishment :—

No. 2736,	Sergeant	W. Hall	"E" Company.
,, 4526,	,,	W. Watt	"C" ,,
,, 4301,	,,	J. Gilbert	"E" ,,
,, 3548,	Lce.-Sergeant	C. Greenland	"E" ,,
,, 4868,	Corporal	J. Gifford	"A" ,,
,, 959,	Private	J. Reid	"F" ,,
,, 4484,	,,	P. G. Mathew	"G" ,,
,, 3067,	,,	D. J. Smith	"A" ,,
,, 3872	,,	J. Gray	"A" ,,
,, 4223	,,	J. Hutton	"B" ,,
,, 3995	,,	T. Little	"D" ,,
,, 4751	,,	J. Atherton	"B" ,,
,, 7993	,,	G. Rodwell	"D" ,,
,, 7659	,,	A. Phillips	"D" ,,
,, 8008	,,	R. C. Coventry	"D" ,,

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Draft.

The undermentioned—a Draft from the 1st Battalion—are taken on the strength and posted to Companies as under :—

"A" Company.

No. 7571 Lance Sergeant W. Balfour.

No.	7757	Lce.-Cpl. W. Bell.	No.	9158	Pte. R. Charles.
,,	7070	Pte. A. Bain.	,,	7225	,, J. McAlwraith
,,	7443	,, J. Rogan.	,,	7963	,, G. Mcleod.
,,	7728	,, W. Duncan.	,,	6531	,, R. Jamieson.
,,	9119	,, S. Bond.	,,	7784	,, J. Stewart.
,,	8117	,, E. Lynch.	,,	8404	,, J. Elton.
,,	8357	,, D. Forrest.	,,	8428	,, W. Watson.

"C" Company

No. 5368 Sergeant J. McQueen.

No.	8899	Pte. D. Broderick.	No.	8194	Pte. J. Fleming.
,,	8084	,, H. McMillan.	,,	8039	,, W. Campbell
,,	8094	,, J. Scott.	,,	7042	,, J. Gunning.
,,	8049	,, J. Dunlop.	,,	9015	,, W. Tennant.

"D" Company.

No. 5714 Sergeant J. Ferrier.

No.	5764	Sergeant J. Sim.	No.	8079	Pte. A. Crawford.
,,	7403	Lce.-Cpl. W. Barkie	,,	8209	,, W. Stirling.
,,	7059	Pte. T. Edin.	,,	8884	,, J. Lauder.
,,	8083	,, F. Forsyth.	,,	7761	,, E. Johnston.
,,	8010	,, W. McQueen.	,,	6648	,, J. Macphee.
,,	7999	,, T. Muirhead.	,,	7684	,, H. Lynch.
,,	7710	,, J. Jack.	,,	8077	,, D. Finlayson.

"E" Company.

No. 4773 Sergeant A. Wilson.

No.	7734	Lce.-Sgt. A. Macdonald.	No.	8975	Pte. J. Paxton.
			,,	6271	,, F. Elder.
,,	7222	Pte. W. Macdonald	,,	8336	,, J. Welsh.
,,	6163	,, J. Matchett.	,,	8032	,, D. Cargill.
,,	8090	,, W. A. Green.	,,	8295	,, J. Millar.

"F" Company.

No.	5374	Sgt. C. Phimester.	No.	8687	Pte. T. Kavanagh.
,,	8209	Pte. G. Weller.	,,	6549	,, P. Kavanagh.
,,	7702	,, J. Wilson.	,,	5712	,, W. Mornin.
,,	7223	,, A. Kean.	,,	8291	,, J. Erskine.
,,	8067	,, G. Shannon.	,,	7370	,, P. Mullen.
,,	8230	,, D. Macphee.	,,	8165	,, J. Flynn.
,,	8237	,, G. Mark.	,,	8425	,, R. Howieson.
,,	7623	,, D. Bruce.	,,	7826	,, J. Gallow

"G" Company.

No.	8163	Pte. R. Lamb.	No.	7402	Pte. A. Patterson.
,,	9027	,, C. Biggins.	,,	8028	,, G. McPherson
,,	8187	,, J. Gilmour.	,,	8073	,, J. Gilmour.
,,	8075	,, J. Fleming.	,,	9159	,, A. Buckley.
,,	8909	,, W. McLean.	,,	8135	,, G. Thomson.
,,	7589	,, J. Hunter.	,,		,, D. McAloon.
,,	7198	,, T. Coyne.	,,	6420	,, T. Foster.
,,	7039	,, J. McFadyen	,,	8200	,, G. MacIntosh.

No. 8205 Private. D. Cleghorn.

"H" Company,

No.	7455	Cpl. G. Polson.	No.	7876	Pte. G. Christie.
,,	7125	Pte. J. Logan.	,,	8089	,, J. Patterson.

No. 9183 Boy C. McKilligan.

Domestic Occurrences.

Birth.

Wallace.—At Poona, on the 7th November 1903, the wife of Sergeant A. A. Wallace, "B" Company, 93rd Highlanders, of a daughter—Margaret Lesley.

Death.

Wallace.—At the Sassoon Hospital, Poona, on the 16th November, 1903, Margaret Lesley, the infant daughter of Sergeant and Mrs. A. A. Wallace, 93rd Highlanders.

Subscriptions.

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions :—

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—o—

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following papers :—

"The Gordonian"	... for September.
"St. George's Gazette"	... for October.
"The Dragon"	... ,, ,,
"The Oakleaf"	... ,, ,,
"The A. S. C. Journal"	... ,, ,,
"The Globe and Laurel"	.. ,, ,,
"The Die-Hards' Doings"... ...	... ,, ,,
"The Tiger and the Rose" ...	... for November.
"The Green Howards' Gazette" ...	... ,, ,,
"The Lillywhite's Gazette" ...	... ,, ,,
"The Indian Volunteer Record and Military News"	... ,, ,,
"The Suffolk Gazette"	... ,, ,,
"St. Andrew"	... Quarterly.
"The Oban Times"...	... Weekly.
"The Rothesay Express"	... ,,
"The Stirling Sentinel"	... ,,
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—o—

NOTICE.

In order to encourage, as much as possible, the production of photographic views and groups of regimental interest, the Editor is prepared, out of the Funds of the "Thin Red Line," to bear the cost of publishing copies of such, from time to time, on condition that the party or parties desirous of having the view or group re-produced are willing to bear the cost of the photographic block required. In this way the Editor hopes to keep up a monthly issue of groups or views of Regimental interest without unduly straining the funds of the paper.

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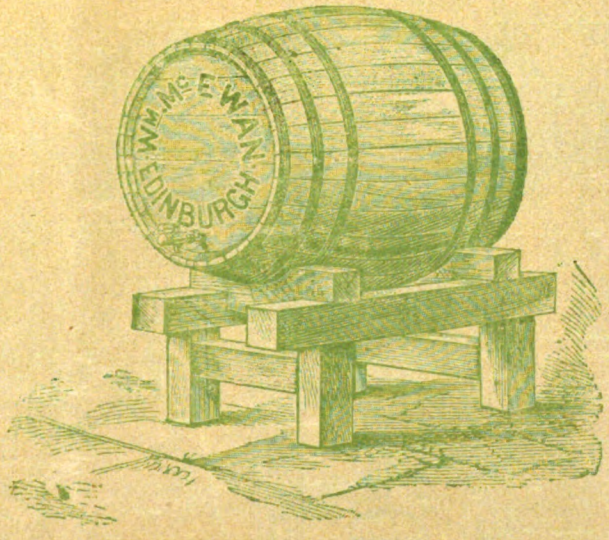

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JANUARY 1904

The Thin Red Line.

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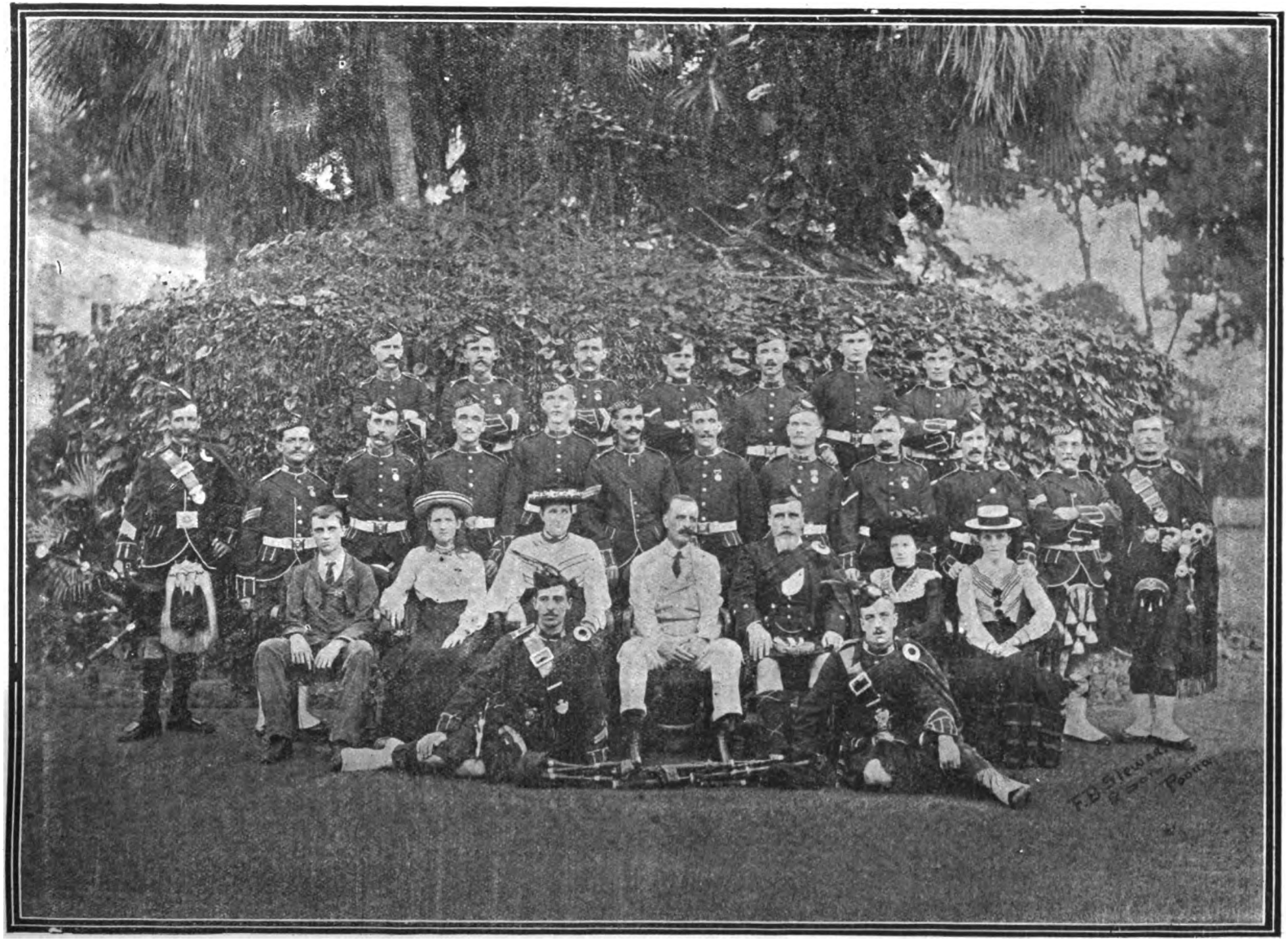

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XCIII
SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Battalion (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 9—Vol. IX.] POONA—JANUARY, 1904. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

Lieutenant General S. M. Wiseman-Clarke has been selected for the Colonelcy of the King's Own Scottish Borderers in succession to the late General W. C. E. Napier. General Wiseman-Clarke obtained his first commission in the 93rd Highlanders, November 23rd, 1849, and after obtaining his company, exchanged to the 29th Regiment, February 2nd, 1859. He was promoted to half pay Lieutenant Colonelcy, May 19th, 1868, and commanded the 73rd Regiment from July 2nd, 1870, to July 11th, 1877. He was promoted Major General, September 25th, 1884, and Lieutenant-General April 1892, his last employment having been the command of the Belfast District. He was with the 93rd Highlanders in the Crimean War, including the battles of Alma and Balaklava and the fall of Sevastopol, and the capture of Kertch and Yemihale (medal with three clasps, and Turkish medal). Also in the Indian Mutiny, including the relief of Lucknow by Lord Clyde, battle of Cawnpore on December 6th, pursuit of the enemy and capture of their guns at Teraighat, action at Kali Nadi, taking of Futteghar, expedition to Mhow under Brigadier Hope, siege and capture of Tuckow (mentioned in Sir E. Lugard's despatches), and subsequent affairs, ending in the capture of Bareilly (medal with two clasps). Lieutenant Wiseman-Clarke carried the Queen's Colours in the Thin Red Line of Glorious Memory.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

A Regimental Shooting Club open to the whole battalion has been formed upon the following lines. The monthly subscription for officers, Sergeants and paid Lance Sergeants, Corporals, and paid Lance Corporals, unpaid Lance Corporals, and Privates to be Rs. one, annas eight, six and four respectively. The charge for ammunition is six annas for the first nine rounds, or one rupee for twenty-five rounds. Extra rounds can be obtained at an anna each. A committee composed of Major A. E. J. Cavendish, Captain H. H. G. Hyslop, and Lieutenant and Adjutant J. Kennedy, with a Sub-Committee consisting of Sergeant Major H. Ditcham, Colour Sergeant G. Arnott, Sergeants C. Johnstone and D. Inglis, has been formed to manage the club, and under their capable management we feel sure that the

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venture will be a successful one. As the Commanding Officer reminded the battalion when presenting the scheme, the scale of increased daily pay (Service pay) which comes into force on the 1st April, depends chiefly on a man's musketry proficiency, and failure to reach the prescribed standard entails reduction for twelve months from Class I. to Class II., i.e., a reduction of 2d per day.

A grant of 500 Rupees from the Regimental Institute fund has been placed at the disposal of the club in order to place it on a sound footing at once, and we feel sure, that, having the support of the whole battalion at its back, the shooting club will prove its value in the increased musketry efficiency of the battalion.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

Captain Marshall on return from leave resumed pay and command of "D" company. Lieutenant Hon'ble Bruce took over command of Attached Section from Lieutenant Langton.

2nd Lieutenant Lord George Dundas has returned from Ranikhet, after three months absence, where he has been attending a special Garrison Class.

∴ ∴ ∴

We have to congratulate 2nd Lieutenants C. Macdonald and L. G. Dudley on appointment to the Indian Army. The former has been posted to the 2nd Punjabis,and has already embarked on his long journey to Bhamo where the regiment is at present stationed. The latter has been posted to the 6th Jats at Meerut. Their vacancies have already been filled up by arrival of two more attached officers, Lieutenant Eykgn and 2nd Lieutenant Hay, who have both been posted to "F" Coy.

∴ ∴ ∴

Most of the men we left behind us have now joined from Calcutta, but our members have again been seriously reduced during the month, by the departure of Colour Sergeant Swan, and a large number of T. X. men.

∴ ∴ ∴

Immediately on the completion of "G" company's Field Training, "H" Coy. were struck off all duty for that purpose. An account of our Grenadier company's operations while in camp will be found elsewhere in our columns.

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"D" and "E" companies were unfortunately interrupted in their annual course of musketry owing to the dangerous condition of the Butts. It was deemed advisable to suspend all pratices other than deliberate independant, until the stop-butts had been repaired. Several men while marking have been grazed by splinters and ricochets but fortunately no one has up to the present been seriously damaged. "B" and "C" Coys. have completed their course, and the rolls only tend to prove what was shown by "A" Coy., that it is more difficult this year than it ever has been to attain the higher standards of shooting ; more especially on the Wanowrie Ranges, where shooting is rendered very difficult both by light and wind.

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Although there is not much sport to be had round Poona, a few of the officers have taken advantage of what little there is, and have been attended with a certain amount of success. Lt. Langton has been out several times fishing. His best basket being 11 fish, his biggest fish weighed 4 lbs. 12 ozs., taken out of Karakwasla Lake. Several of the men, we hear, have been following his example and taken to angling, but no word has reached us of any big baskets.

In the shooting line a few chinkara have been killed in the hills in the vicinity of Poona. 2nd Lieut. Kennedy during 10 days leave at Xmas secured five black buck at Nimgaon, about five miles by rail from Poona. 2nd Lieuts. Cheape and Maclaine at the same time in the Central Provinces killed seven buck, as well as some quail, duck, and partridges. The best head was killed by 2nd Lieut. Cheape and measured 20 inches. The remaining heads were all fair, averaging from 18 to 19 inches.

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The following letter amply explains the frontispiece which we are presenting to our subscribers with this month's issue.

To the Editor "Thin Red Line."

DEAR MR. EDITOR—The enclosed photograph I feel sure will be of interest to our readers. The group was taken shortly before we left Calcutta, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Finlayson and their friends in the 93rd.

Mr. and Mrs. Finlayson have been true friends to the regiment during our stay in Calcutta. Mr. Finlayson is a native of Cromarty and belonged to our sister service ; I personally met him almost within a few days of my arrival in Calcutta. As he spoke to me one day turning out the Guard at the Bengal Bank, he told me that he knew my late father in former days in Rossshire, which became a bond of friendship between us. Many a pleasant evening has been spent by our comrades with him while we were stationed in Calcutta.

Mr. and Mrs. Finlayson came to see the regiment off at Calcutta. On new year's day he sent me a telegram wishing the Boys a happy and prosperous new year, which wish we fully reciprocated to his family and himself.

Yours truly,

A. F. MACKENZIE.

Poona,
17 January, 1904.

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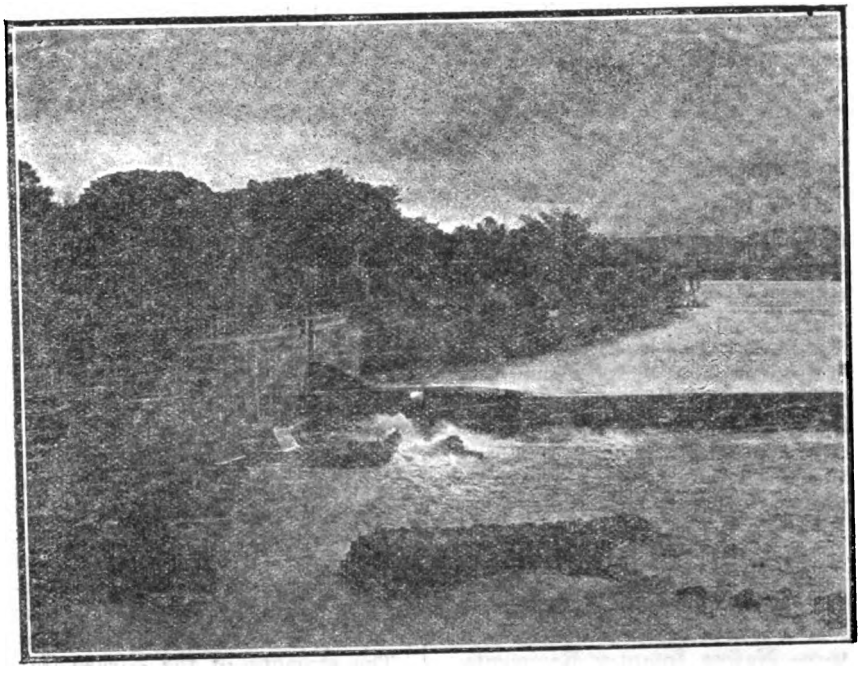
Poona.

(Continued from page 119.)

The city is divided into wards called *Peths*, which is the Poona name for a division. The Peths are named either after the days of the week or some local celebrity. Each Peth consists, as a rule, of one long street and a few lanes branching off. The Sumley Ward contains the Moti Chauk, or Pearl Square, the handsomest street of the city, and is inhabited chiefly by jewellers, money-lenders, and brass and copper workers. The Shanwar, or Saturday ward, is the aristocratic part, and houses the influential Brahmin citizens. It also contains the old state residence of the Peshwas although they resided principally in the Budhwarnada Palace in the Budhwar ward. There are over twenty markets in Poona, the chief one being the Reay Market, situated in an open space near the old Shanwar Palace.



THE BUND GARDENS.

Many buildings of historic interest, chiefly temples, palaces, and mansions, are to be found all over the city. Sevaji spent his boyhood days in the Ambarkhana, or elephant carriage house, situated in the old Kasha ward. It was called the Lal Mahal when the Mahratta chieftain and his mother stayed there, but was afterwards turned into a storeroom for *Ambaris* under the Peshwas. Parts of the house still remain, the walls having been of enormous thickness. The temple of Amreshwar on the Mutha is another interesting building, having been built as a thanksgiving to the Hindu god by a sister of the second Peshwa in 1722 to celebrate the birth of a son.

The chief Mahommedan place of worship is the Jumma Musjid, a large modern mosque, besides which there are several Mussulman shrines on the river banks.

The Shanwar Palace, the most princely of all the palaces in Poona, and the chief residence of the later Peshwas, is now almost non-existent. Everything has now disappeared except the enclosure wall. The site of this was chosen by the second Peshwa, who, riding by one day, saw a hare turn on a dog and thought that a house built on that site would never be taken by siege. The Palace in the days of its splendour was a beautiful six-storied building of great magnificence, embellished with carved pillars and arches and woodwork inlaid with ivory, enamel and gold, and painted with scenes from the Puranas. The largest court contained a splendid fountain famed all over India for its size and beauty, of which a very pretty story is told. When the palace was being built, no one thought of the water-supply except a clever mason, who secretly built a ditch under the wall and, without being noticed, made an aqueduct near one of the gates. When the palace was finished, the only way of bringing water from the nearest canal was by pulling down part of the wall with the buildings on it. This course, to the great sorrow of the Peshwa, was about to be adopted when the mason shewed his arrangement, and was rewarded by the grant of a village near Ahmednagar.

The central division of Poona dates from the formation of the British Cantonment after the Battle of Kirkee in 1817, and comprises the Sudder Bazar, Civil lines, Government offices, Public Buildings, etc.

The David Sassoon General Hospital is named after the gentleman to whom in a great measure it owes its existence. It is built in the English Gothic style and was opened in 1867. The build-

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ing cost over three lacs of rupees and there is accommodation for one hundred and fifty patients.

The Council Hall in which the Bombay Legislative Council meets, and in which the Governor holds his annual Levee, is a large and handsome edifice in the Venetian Gothic style. It has a fine tower which commands a good view of the country around.

The Bund Gardens, on the Mutha-Mula, close to the Fitzgerald Bridge, from their charming situation, are a favourite place of resort especially in the evenings and on the moonlight nights that are so beautiful on the river. The gardens are tastefully laid out in terraces reaching to the river-side and are a great addition to the beauty of Poona. Connecting the Gardens with the opposite bank of the river is the Sir Jamsetjee Bund, originally constructed to dam up water for drinking and household purposes. Since the making of the Kharakwasla waterworks it is no longer needed to fulfil the purpose for which it was erected, thirty-five years ago, at a cost of more than two lacs and a half.

Besides the club of Western India, which is conveniently situated in a central part of the cantonment, there is a large Gymkhana Club, built in 1885, near the Council Hall.

The Military offices in Poona are very fine, and are situated in Queen's Gardens, which is the most fashionable residential quarter of Poona, and contains large and handsome houses. This portion of Poona is reckoned the most salubrious, at any-rate it is the most sought after, and as the houses are occupied by Civilian and Military alike, competition is very keen for a vacant residence in this quarter.

The Eastern division of Poona, the cantonment, is well laid out with good roads, many of which have riding paths, and are planted with fine trees.

The garrison of Poona consists of two British Infantry, and three Native Infantry Regiments, and one Regiment of Native Cavalry.

The Wanowrie Lines, in which the Battalion is now quartered, are also known as the Right Flank Lines from their situation. The barracks are built on rising ground and have accommodation for over 1,000 rank and file. They consist of double storied blocks arranged in a double echelon, and include eight blocks which were built in 1861 of brick and lime, and plaster; and six stone masonry blocks, completed about 1872. There are sergeants' quarters in every storey and two blocks of quarters for married men. The Officers' Mess is situated on the road south west of barracks and all the officers reside in bungalows within a few minutes' walk of the Mess and Barracks.

The Ghorpuri Barracks, in which our old friends of the East Lancashire Regiment are quartered, are away on the Left Flank, at the extreme end of the Cantonment. They are not so conveniently built as Wanowrie, being only single storied, and are reckoned not so healthy. There is accommodation only for 700 men, and nearly all the bungalows date from pre-Mutiny days.

The Native Infantry Lines stretch out between the two European Infantry barracks, and the Native Cavalry barracks are situated beyond Ghorpuri village—to the east of the European Lines.

There are also barracks for a Mounted Infantry Battalion close to Wanowrie Lines, and the Army Veterinary School is also situated close by, and appears to be a fairly extensive institution.

The Poona race-course, which is situated between the Ghorpuri and Wanowrie lines, is about one and a half miles in circumference and encloses the whole of the Brigade parade-ground. Near the Race-course are the Empress Botanical Gardens. The gardens are in charge of the Agricultural Department and are very extensive, covering an area of forty-one acres. The shady drive to them is very pretty and the gardens themselves contain many rare and beautiful flowers and plants.

The Battalion attend the Church of Scotland service in St. Andrew's church on Sundays. The building, which is, to say the best for it, unpretentious, and is quite close to Barracks, has accommodation for only 300 worshippers. The Roman Catholic Service takes place in a large Cathedral near the Empress Gardens, and the Church of England Service is held at St. Mary's, a very old church near the Barracks.

The Cantonment of Kirkee is on the right bank of the Mutha, five miles distant to the north-west of Poona Cantonment. It is the principal artillery station in the Bombay command and is the head-quarters of the Bombay Sappers and Miners. There is also a small-arms and ammunition factory, where cordite is manufactured, at Kirkee. The strength of the Kirkee Garrison at present is four batteries of Field Artillery, a company of Bombay Sappers and Miners, and a detachment of one company of the East Lancashire Regiment. Kirkee is remarkable as being the site of the battle which decided the fate of the Peshwas and placed Poona under the rule of British.

Ganeshkhind, containing Government House and Gardens, lying to the south-west of Kirkee, forms the residence of H. E. the Governor of Bombay during the rainy season, viz: June to September. Government House is a large and handsome erection, commenced in 1864 during the Governorship of Sir Bartle Frere, and finished in 1870 at an estimated cost of sixteen lacs of rupees. This residence supplanted the old Government House at Dapuri, now in the possession of the Deccan Brewery Company, and is charmingly situated in fine wooded grounds.

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One of the most picturesque places in the vicinity of Poona is Parbatti, a bold hill whose sides rise up 261 feet above the city and whose flat summit is crowned by a most picturesque temple, reached by a paved stairway which runs up the eastern side of the hill. The hill takes its name from Parbatti, widow of a Temple Brahmin who was burnt here in 1832, the date of the last widow burning which took place in Poona. An altar, half way up, marks the spot of the *sati*.

The temple is a cluster of huge buildings of stone and brick, surrounded by a high wall with loop holes and battlements, and of various shrines to the Sun, Parbatti, etc., aud of the temples of Shiva, Vishnu and Kartikeya. On another crest of the hill, are the ruins of a palace, which was begun but never finished by the last Peshwa, Baji Rao, in 1797. It was struck by lightning and the work abandoned. From a window on the north face of the temple, the last of the Peshwas it is said watched the disastrous defeat of his army on the fateful day of Kirkee.

The neighbouring hill forts of Singarh and Purandarh are of great historical interest, but a description of them is deferred until an inspection has been made.

The following is the Musketry Prize Scheme for the year 1903-1904 :—

TRAINED SOLDIERS COURSE.

Independent Practices, Parts I and II, Table "B."

32½ per cent—To the best shots of Corporals and Privates in each company or party of casuals in the Classification Practices, Part I, Table "B."

5 per cent—To the best shot of Sergeants in Classification Practices, Part I, Table "B."

10 per cent—To the best shots of Corporals and Privates in the aggregate of Nos. 10, 11, 12, and 13, Practices Part I, Table "B." (Snap Shooting)

20 per cent—To the best shots of Corporals and Privates in the aggregate of Nos. 14, 15, and 16, practices Part II, Table "B." (Snap Shooting.)

10 per cent—To the best Section or Squad, in No. 17 Practice, Part II, Table "B." (Skirmishing Practice.)

2½ per cent.—To the best shots of Corporals and Privates in No. 18 Practice, Part II, Table "B." (Fixed sight and fixed Bayonet practice.)

10 per cent.—To the best shots of Corporals and Privates in No. 19 Practice, Part II, Table "B." (Marksmen and 1st class shots.)

10 per cent.—To be awarded to any Practice, at the Company Commanders' discretion,

Should there be any surplus money at the end of the year, the three best shots of each Company will fire for Battalion Shot, and prizes will be awarded to the three best shots of the Battalion,

Reminiscences of Balaklava.

BY GENERAL BURROUGHS.

[*The following interesting details are included in a letter from Lieutenant General F. W. Traill-Burroughs to Colonel Middleton, being extracts from the diary of the General, who commanded the left centre Company of the "Thin Red Line" on the 25th October 1854. Lieutenant F. W. Traill-Burroughs on that occasion stood next to Lieutenant J. M. Clayhills, who carried the Regimental Colour, and Lieutenant S. M. Wiseman-Clarke, who carried the Queen's Colour. These Officers are all alive.*]

Sept. 26th, 1854.—The town of Balaklava is captured after a slight show of resistance. Its Greek Commandant and Garrison surrender.

27th.—As a Lieutenant I am put in charge of No 6 Company, vice Captain J. A. Ewart appointed to the Staff.

28th.—The allied Armies occupy the Plateau of Sebastopol. The 93rd being the junior Regiment of the 1st Division to our disgust are left behind to guard Balaklava and its harbour, which has been selected as the British base of supplies.

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Oct. 10th.—The town and harbour of Balaklava are threatened by destruction, as also the British Transport vessels, by Greek incendiaries. An order arrives to clear every inhabitant out of the town. The 93rd employed in this very disagreeable duty. Tents are pitched for the inhabitants at some distance from the town, the houses of which are turned into Commissariat and Ordnance Stores.

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13th.—Sir Colin Campbell arrives from the front to take Command at Balaklava. He sends the Left Wing of the 93rd under Major Gordon to defend the Heights to the East of Balaklava Harbour, and to reinforce some 1,000 marines under Colonel Hurdle occupying that position. We arrive after dark and bivouack.

14th.—Pitch tents, and throw up defences to the Eastward, guarding the Waronzoff road.

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17th.—The Bombardment of Sebastopol commences.

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25th.—In the early morning Russian Sharp Shooters dressed in green swarm up the sides of Canrobert (or Canny Robert) Hill N. E. of us. A very pretty sight. On this hill and at points along a low undulating ridge of hills closing the valley of Balaklava on the North, and about 1½ miles from the harbour, the British and Turks had thrown up 4 Redoubts, placed a few British Ship's guns in each in charge of British Artillerymen. These Redoubts were garrisoned by Turks. The Turks in Canny Roberts Redoubt did not long await the Russian attack, but led by their Officers were seen streaming across the Valley towards the

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harbour. The Garrison of Redoubt after Redoubt did the same and were pursued by the Russians.

Hardly had the Russian attack on Canny Roberts hill commenced, before the Left Wing of the 93rd received orders from Sir Colin to hasten down and join the Right Wing of the Regiment, drawn up behind an undulation of the ground, afterwards called Sutherland Hill. To our left was drawn up, also in line, a small body of British sick and wounded from various Regiments, from the Hospital ships in the harbour. And on each flank of the British was a Turkish battalion in Quarter Column of Companies. The British Heavy Cavalry were encamped to the left front of Sutherland Hill. The Light Cavalry had advanced to the left of the low ridge of hills closing Balaklava Valley on the North and were awaiting the development of events.

Presently we saw a heavy column of Cavalry (Russians), cross the hills on which the Turkish Redoubts were placed, and stream into the valley. Half of their column advanced against our Heavy Cavalry which went to meet them, and we saw their Red Coats, and especially the grey horses of the Greys, tearing through the Russian Column, and then back again through them, and then attacking them on their Right flank and through them again, and off went the Russians not to return. The 93rd threw up their bonnets and cheered and cheered again. Our cheering however was soon put a stop to by seeing a column of Russian Cavalry sweeping across the valley and about to charge us. Sir Colin left us in line formation, and down came the Cavalry, and off went the Turkish battalions on our flanks. Sir Colin in alarm rode down our line shouting: "There's no retreat from here men. You must die where you stand!" Well, we all thought our last hour had come. However, every man stood firm, and I heard men about me, and amongst them my right hand man Pte. John Scott (late a Porter at the corner of Frederick St. and George St.. Edinburgh) shout back in reply to Sir Colin. "Aye, aye, Sir Colin, and needs be we'll do that!" We were ordered to give the Russians a volley, and then commenced independent firing. As soon as the smoke cleared away, to our relief and joy we saw the Russian Cavalry retiring to their left flank. The Grenadier Company under Captain Lockhart Ross was wheeled forward to its right and continued firing at the Russians as long as they were within range. The men of our line ordered arms, and gave an angry roar, more than a cheer, which still further hastened the enemy's flight. The Russians came to about 200 yards of our line, and when another minute would have brought them on the top of us they sheered off. Had they come boldly on their column must have gone through our line as if it had been a sheet of paper, and they would have captured the town and harbour of Balaklava, Liprandi's troops, simply by force of numbers, must have overpowered our Marines, on the heights to the East of the harbour, for they were only 1000 strong; and that of his force (Liprandi's) would have attacked the allied position in flank and rear, whilst the Russians in and about Sebastopol would have advanced and attacked the allies in front and also on a flank, and the allies generally would have been in a very tight corner. They were extricated from this emergency by the coolness and steadfastness of "The Thin Red Line," a feat the Regiment to the end of time may well be proud of.

Captain Wm. Macdonald, 93rd, who as Provost Marshall was with Lord Raglan's Staff on the plateau of Sebastopol watching the battle, and was near General Vinoy's Division of the French Army, told me after the battle that the French were in the greatest excitement at seeing the Russian Cavalry charging the Highland Line, and that they exclaimed "Oh! These poor Highlanders, they will be massacred! Balaklava is lost!" And when they saw "The Thin Red Line" standing firm, and the Russian Cavalry in flight, they broke from their ranks, and shouted with delight and threw up their caps, and after Continental custom they embraced one another. And not only that, but when ever afterwards they met an Officer or Man of the 93rd they tried to embrace him!

After the war, as soon as Peace was declared, with Dr. Munro, Cluny Macpherson, and W. Gordon Alexander, I visited Backshisirai and Simpherople, towns of the Crimea. At the latter we met some of the Russian Cavalry Officers who had charged us at Balaklava. They received us most hospitably and entertained us at a great dinner. In talking over the Campaign (in French) we asked them why they had not charged home at Balaklava. They said their orders were to charge and capture two Guns (commanded by Lieutenant Wolf, R.A.) that were firing over our heads; that they did not see the 93rd at all. We were lying down on the South side of Sutherland Hill. And that when they did get some distance across the valley, a Regiment of Infantry rose as it were by enchantment out of the ground and directed such withering volleys at them that their horses would not face them, and thinking they were advancing into a trap laid for them they sheered off. We said they did not leave many dead on the field. One Officer answered: "If you gentlemen are sportsmen you will know that when a stag or a hare is hit but not killed it will run a long way before it falls, and so will a horse, and no rider will tumble off his horse as long as he can hold on. He looks to his horse to carry him out of action. In my Squadron hardly a man or horse escaped being hit. "I myself," said the

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speaker "had two bullets through me, one through my arm and one through my thigh."

French Officers talking over the Battle with us, told me that if any French Regiment had done what we had done, every Officer and man in it would have been specially decorated.

They were much surprised to hear that we simply eventually only got a Clasp for it, and that even Colonel W. B. Ainsley only after a time got a C.B.

Like all the Russian battles it was excellently planned. The attention of the allies was directed at first to an attack on their extreme right. If the British had advanced across the valley to defend their right, Liprandi's force would have attacked them on their left flank. A sortie would have been made and was made from Sebastopol. And had these been successful, the Russians encamped on the North side of the Tchernaya river would have crossed it and swarmed up the slopes of the plateau, as they afterwards did at the battle of Inkerman, and the allies according to Autumn Manœuvre Umpires would have been declared defeated. Mercifully, no Umpires were there and we won the day.

After the defeat of the Russian Cavalry, Lord Raglan sent an order to the British Light Cavalry to recover the Guns (meaning the British Guns in the Turkish Redoubts, which they easily could have done, as these Redoubts were constructed on Downs, and beautiful galloping ground). The A. D. C. who conveyed this order did not understand its import, and directed Lord Cardigan to charge down another valley, beyond the Valley of Balaklava, in which Liprandi's force of Cavalry, Artillery, and Infantry were awaiting orders to advance. And this was the heroic but bloody charge of the 600, so celebrated in story. Its losses were dreadful but the moral effect it had upon our enemies was great.

If you would like to read this at the Regimental Balaklava gathering pray do so. Its particulars may not be known to the present generation. And if you would like to send it for publication in the Regimental Newspaper "The Thin Red Line," or otherwise, pray do so.

Thanks for the copies of that paper which you have sent me, but it is to me now like an ancient classic! It is 30 years since I gave up command of the old 93rd, at Aldershot, after having held it as Major and Lieutenant Colonel for some ten years of the happiest time of my life.

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The serio-comic Yankee religious (?) press can achieve great headings. But its efforts are beaten by an illustrated Bible printed in New York by a Truth Society. One of the pictures has for subject, "And God set a mark upon Cain." In the picture Cain is seen setting out in a calico shirt, and along the small of his back ran the lines "Y.M.C.A."

Home and Depot Notes.

Lieutenant-Colonel Urmston took over command of the 1st Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders on the 12th of December, when Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson, C.B., completed his term of service. Major and Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Wolrige Gordon becomes second in command of the battalion.

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Captain Neil Malcolm, D.S.O., on completion of his course at the Staff College was gazetted recently as Special Service officer on the staff of the Somaliland Field Force.

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Sanction has been given for the 2nd (Paisley) Volunteer Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders to wear the Highland dress.

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Seven of the new guns which are to take the place of the ancient weapons of artillery at Stirling Castle were shipped by the Ordnance Department recently and removed to the stores, where they will lie until the drawbridge at the Castle has been strengthened to allow of their being taken over. The guns are breach-loading 32-pounders, which after service in the Navy have been overhauled, and adapted to their principal purpose of firing salutes. The Stirling Town Council have applied for two or three of the old guns, which will be placed in a suitable spot as objects of interest to the present and future generations. A company of Royal Garrison Artillery are now in the Castle to carry out the work of mounting the new battery.

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Colonel King, on the occasion of his retirement from the command of the 4th (Stirlingshire) V.B. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, issued the following valedictory orders.—"The Commanding Officer wishes to announce for the information of the regiment, that, as the period of four years of command expires on 2nd May, 1904, he has thought it advisable in the interests of the regiment to send his resignation at this time in order that his successors may make arrangements for the coming session. He regrets extremely that the time has come to sever his connection with the regiment, and expresses to all officers, N.C. officers, and men, his high appreciation of the hearty co-operation he has received from them, and from the prompt manner in which his orders had been carried out by all, without which it would have been impossible for him to have continued the high state of efficiency which the regiment has maintained during the time he has had the honour of commanding it. He will always take the greatest interest in the future welfare of the regiment, and trusts its future may be as prosperous as its past."

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A recent issue of the "*Stirling Sentinel*" contains the following :—

Hitherto, apart from the occasional appearance of a stalwart constable, there has been nothing to distinguish the entrance to the Ordnance Stores at Fortside from the entrance to a private residence, but recently two 40-pounder cannon have been placed on either side of the gateway, within the grounds, which gives the place its necessary military advertisement. The guns are of an obsolete type, and, along with a number more, are for sale, so that it depends upon the demand for such articles as Christmas gifts, or for the adornment of back gardens, how long they will be found in their present conspicuous position.

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From a Scottish paper :

MILITARY FUNERAL.—The funeral took place on Monday afternoon from Edinburgh Royal Infirmary to Echobank Cemetery of Sergeant F. E. George, late of the permanent staff of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders at Stirling. Deceased was buried with military honours, the gun carriage being provided by the 17th Lancers and the firing party and pipers by the Black Watch. Sergeant George served for about a score of years in the Scotch Fusiliers and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and was the wearer of four medals—the Burmah and North-Western Frontier medals, and both the late South African medals. Representatives were present from the two regiments in which deceased had served.

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The Ninety-First Regiment football team by their defeat of the 2nd Grenadier Guards have entered into the second round of the Army Cup ties. We wish them every success in their efforts to win the coveted trophy.

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Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Association.

ANNUAL DINNER.

The eighteenth annual dinner and assembly of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Association, was held in the Trades' House, Glassford Street, on Friday, 23rd inst.

Colonel A. H. Middleton presided, and Sergt.-Major James Lindsay discharged the duties of vice chairman. Supporting Colonel Middleton were a number of other officers, including Colonel Trotter, Colonel J. H. Campbell, Major MacDougall of Lunga, Captain Finlayson of the recruiting office, Dr. Hansen, etc.

THE ROLL CALL.

An interesting part of this annual gathering is the calling of the roll, when each of the veterans present, in answering to his name, gives his old regimental number and states at what depot and in what year he joined. Amongst those answering the roll on Friday last were a few veterans who were with the regiment in the Crimea and during the Indian Mutiny, while one or two formed units of the famous Thin Red Line. Of the latter were Sergt. Hutton, a veteran wearing six decorations ; Private Maxwell, five medals; and Corpl. McLeay, three medals, the two latter travelling specially from Dunblane to meet their old comrades. There were also Sergt. E. McKinley, an Argyllshire man, who has seen much service, and Sergt. Fulton, who carried with him that evening a Russian bugle as a trophy from the Russian war. Other names on the roll included Colour-Sergt. J. Baldwin, Sergt.-Major W. Beattie, Private A. Beattie, Private J. Bridges, Private A. Black, Private J. Buckley, Colour-Sergt.-Instructor A. Christie, Colour-Sergt.-Instructor Clark, Private J. Cobb, Private G. Gordon, Colour-Sergt. H. G. Hansen, Sergt.-Major W. Hardie, Colour-Sergt.-Instructor Kerr, Sergt.-Major J. Lindsay, Colour.-Sergt. J. MacDonald, Sergt.-Major P. MacDonald, Sergt.-Major Carle, Scots Guards, Colour-Sergt. D. Maclean, Sergt. Martin, Colour-Sergt.-Instructor A. Miller, Sergt. W. Maxwell, Colour-Sergt.-Instructor J. Morrison, Sergt. R. Paton, Colour-Sergt.-Instructor C. Robertson, Sergt.-Major W. Russell, now in charge of Blythswood Rifles' new headquarters, Bridgeton ; Piper Thomson, Private J. Stirling, Sergt. Scott, Sergt. G. Stevenson, Private Stewart, Private T. Shepherd, Private J. W. Wallace. Colour-Sergt.-Instructor E. Milne, Colour-Sergt.-Instructor James Wright.

THE THIN RED LINE.

Before the toast list was entered upon Colonel Middleton read a letter from General Burroughs, who was one of the Thin Red Line. The gallant writer gave an interesting account of the operations in which the old 93rd had taken part, commencing with the capture of the town of Balaclava on the 26th September, 1854. The recital of the General's reminiscences was keenly enjoyed by all present.

THE TOAST LIST.

"The King" having been given from the chair, and loyally responded to,

Sergt.-Major Hardie followed with "Our Comrades," which was replied to by

Colonel Trotter, who referred to the fact that amongst their comrades present was Colonel Campbell, who had lately commanded the regiment in India. He was sorry, however, that they had not with them their gallant old friend, General Ewart. (Applause.) Advancing years alone kept General Ewart from being with them, for he took a keen and hearty interest in all matters connected with his old comrades and their regiment. (Applause). Speaking for himself, Colonel Trotter said he looked forward with very great pleasure indeed to the annual dinner of the Association. (Applause.) It was one of the pleasantest opportunities of uniting the past and present, and joining in comradeship with the rising generation of young soldiers. The past deeds of the regiment would never be forgotten—and they were there that night to commemorate them—and to the young soldiers

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he ventured to say that their deeds in South Africa were not unworthy to be written along with those performed in the Crimea. (Applause.)

Sergt.-Maior P. MacDonald next proposed "Officers, Past and Present," to which Colonel J. H. Campbell briefly replied.

"Our Guests and the Press" was then given by Mr. E. McKinley, who in the course of his remarks pointed out that next year would mark the jubilee of the regiment's work in the Crimea. He suggested that the occasion should be marked in a fitting manner, and mentioned that some of their older comrades had expressed the wish that they might be spared to see the Jubilee of the historic engagement in which the Thin Red Line had played such a distinguished part. (Applause.) He concluded by extending a hearty welcome to all their guests.

Staff-Sergt. Carson, the well-known "Forage Cap" of Volunteer fame, made suitable reply.

THE PAST YEAR.

Colonel Middleton, at the close, spoke a few words dealing with the past year. He thought that the leading event which had taken place was the King's visit to Edinburgh, when he reviewed the veterans of the Crimea and the Mutiny. Colonel Middleton had felt that it was a proud day in his life when he headed a deputation of the old regiment, sixty strong before His Majesty. Amongst them that day were General Burroughs and General Scott, Captain Grand (who had risen from the ranks), and their old and much esteemed chaplain, the Rev. Hugh Dreman. (Applause.) The King had been pleased to notice several of the rank and file, amongst them Bugler Fulton who possessed the captured Russian bugle. (Applause.) In connection with their Association a benevolent Fund had been inaugurated, which he hoped would continue to prosper. It was originally started by Sergt. Major Jas. Lindsay and Sergt.-Major Hardie, from the concerts held at Stirling Castle.

AN ASSEMBLY

was held immediately on the hall being cleared at the conclusion of Colonel Middleton's address. Segt. Major Wm. Hardie acted as M.C., and the function passed off most successfully.

REPORT OF PAST YEAR'S WORK.

A report of past year's work was issued to the members attending the gathering by the Committee. It contained the following :—

We, on behalf of the Association, take this opportunity of tendering our sincere thanks to all who have in any way assisted in carrying out the aims and objects of the Association ; and to the officers who have done so much by honouring us with their presence at our re-unions, and the great interest they take in everything for the welfare of the men who have the honour to serve under them, and for their generous support which has enabled us to have so many pleasant and prosperous gatherings.

We would again remind our comrades and civilian friends that the best way to render help to a man worthy of assistance is to place him in a position to aid himself, viz., by securing employment for him. This can only be done by the Committee being kept well posted up as to all situations which become vacant. Members and others will therefore greatly assist by attending to the above, and using any influence they may possess in obtaining the same for those who may be recommended.

The union of the two battalions having now become an accomplished fact, it is the intention of the Executive to issue a circular at an early date to the landed proprietors and other influential persons in the counties with which the corps is connected, and also to the officers and men now serving with the corps, with a view to raising a fund for the following objects, viz :—

1st. To open a labour Bureau in Glasgow, which will be in charge of the Secretary of the Association, where members in want of employment can register their names, and where employers of labour can apply for any men wanted.

2nd. To assist old comrades who through age, incapacity, through wounds or disease, are unable to earn a livelihood ; but only those who are or may become members of the Association will be eligible to participate in any fund which may be raised.

We also desire that this Association and Reunion may be made known to all who have served in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, that in meeting annually the names and numbers of the regiment may not be allowed to die out.

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

That we would have twa' days rest th' morrow.

That he mairched 18 miles on a Cup-o-Tea and a bit cake.

That Field training in Poona is nae joke.

That the musketry is awfu' fair.

That the sheep are separated from the goats.

That Charlie is on the war path.

That mangy dogs are getting scarce.

That family worries caused a certain N.C.O. to forget his 12 o'clock Tonic.

That the early bird didn't catch the worm.

That his delicate constitution would not stand the winter at Home.

That a *tora* vinegar is aw' right for an eye opener.

That he could recite the dummy alphabet.

That he had a bonny Christmas—Twa' black 'een an' a fit o' gravel rush.

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The Boer War.

Notes from my Diary.

By No. 6547, Private John Macdonald.

(*Continued from page* 123.)

Early next morning, two companies under Major Gordon paraded and moved off as an escort to a convoy. On the way, we had no trouble with the enemy, but as soon as we got into camp, they opened fire on us with a pom-pom. We went out with a few mounted troops to search for them, but they had already fled. We halted at Dullstrom and stopped there for the night. We here received news from some families, who were living in the Church, that Viljoen had left there that morning, with about 500 Boers. On the following day our Artillery came into action with some Boers, taking them by surprise. The mounted troops captured a few prisoners, who were later handed over to Colonel Spence's column. On the 14th July, B, C, and D companies marched off in advance with a supply column. They had only got about three miles out, when we heard firing on our right flank, and shortly afterwards a brisk fire opened on our front. The Scottish horse, who were acting as the advanced scouts, came galloping back, having fallen right on top of the enemy. My company crossed the river and formed a large circle, covering the drift, so as to allow the convoy and guns to pass in safety. Our pom-pom opened fire from the side of a Boer house, which was flying the white flag, which we immediately hauled down. Inside the house we found a wounded Boer, who had been wounded five days previously at Middleburg. Our companies took up several positions and forced the enemy to retire. The enemy retired in two directions, closely followed by our mounted troops, The convoy then outspanned to allow the bullocks to graze. We moved off again at one o'clock and caught the remainder of the column up at Waggens Drift, the place where Viljoen attached us, when we were under Colonel Beatson. On the 16th we had to cross another drift and the crossing was a very amusing sight. Highlanders mounted any where on a horse, some hanging on to guns, waggons, ambulances, in fact any thing that would save a man from wading. On crossing the drift we took up a long line of outposts to cover the oxen and mules while grazing. We started off again for our next camp, which we supposed to be only eight miles away, but we soon got news from the mounted troops that the place arranged for the halt had an insufficient supply of water, so we had to go on another eight miles. When we had gone about three of these extra miles, we saw what we thought were our camp fires. However we had not gone much further, when we came across a field hospital, which showed us that our suppositions were correct. For the next few marches our water supply was very limited, and we were very glad to join Colonel Beatson's column at Reitfontein. We stopped here for a few days and indulged in some sports, beating the Victorian Rifles in the Tug-of-war, a feat much to our credit, considering their height and weight. At this camp a Boer spy came and tried to enlist in the Scottish Horse, but luckily was discovered in the act, by one of my company. We arrived at Waterval on the 12th, but nothing of importance happened on the way. To give people an idea of the work we were then doing, I will repeat the following order, which was published in our camp. From the third to the nineteenth of July, 14 prisoners, 6 surrenderers; 34 rifles, 1700 S. A., 111 Cattle, 1500 sheep, 54 waggons, 14 Cape carts, 130 horses, 13 mules, 81 women and 249 children. After several days more marching we reached Groot Oliphants River station, which is on the Delagoa Bay Railway. On the 22nd July we marched to Middleburg, a distance about thirteen miles. Here we were once more in civilization. We had not been in camp very long, ere we heard the joyful cry "Orderly Corporals for the mail," so for the remainder of the day everything was forgotten except the "Old Country." The following morning we shifted camp nearer the railway. We then received our pay, everybody taking advantage of this opportunity of laying in a good stock of provisions. That night B, E, and half of F company received orders to parade at 8-30 a.m. next morning and entrain for Bronkhorst Spruit and Vandermerwe. B company was to relieve our 2nd Volunteer company, so as to give them an opportunity of doing a bit of trekking. Next morning we paraded and marched to the station with light hearts and a large supply of provisions. We arrived at Bronkhorst Spruit at 5 p.m. and bivouacked beside the railway for the night. We were very glad to arrive at this place, as there was a fine Field Force Canteen, where Tommy usually lives up to pay, so long as it lasts. We were now told off for Block house duty. This job gets rather monotonous, but it is far better than trekking, so we put up with it quite happily. We amused ourselves by strengthening our fortifications with barbed wire fences and entrenchments. In September, Colonel Wilson, who was our Commanding Officer at Paardeburg, rejoined the Regiment, and we were all very glad to see him back again, looking so well. About this time Colonel Urmston, who had been Commanding the Regiment, left us to take over a column, which was being fitted up at Middleburg in the Transvaal. On the 24th of December nine Boers surrendered

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here. They were in a very poor condition. They had tried to cross the railway East of here, but had failed to do so. Christmas day was very quiet here, but much better than the previous one. Each man received a pint of beer, one pound of pudding and some tobacco. New Years day also passed off quietly. About the middle of January the Boers again showed signs of life. Our Kaffir scouts, who used to go out every morning, were fired on about a mile from our blockhouse, and one unfortunately was killed. Our Christmas presents still continued to come. We got another 1 lb. pudding, 1 lb. of tobacco and a pipe, which we should have got on Christmas day. Colonel Wing's and Williams' columns which had been operating in this district arrived here. They made over to us a few Boer prisoners, whom we escorted to Pretoria. We put them in the prisoners of war camp or the "bird cage," as some of us call it. We took the train back on the following morning and arrived at Bronkhurst Spruit on the 13th. On the same day as I arrived at Bronkhurst Spruit, I received orders to join the draft which was being sent to India to our second Battalion. On the 23rd one hundred and sixty five prisoners passed down on the way to Pretoria. On the 25th two Boers surrendered. They complained very much of food and sleep. On the 27th February Colonel Park arrived here from Belfast with a flying column They were chasing the Transvaal Government, who were supposed to be near Rhenoster Kop. On the 23rd March a train full of drafts from India arrived. They consisted of the Hants Regiment, Royal Irish Rifles. and the Shropshire Light Infantry. I don't think they quite appreciated the country, and I have an idea that some of them wished themselves in India again. On the 5th March our Intelligence officer went out in the morning and happened to come across some Boers. We killed one, wounded one, and captured three.

(To be continued.)

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Presentation to Cr. Sergt. T. A. Swan.

Colour Sergeant Swan was made the recipient of a Silver Cigar case (suitably inscribed) from the Officers of "G" Company, also a purse of Sovereigns from the N.C.Os. and men on his leaving the Battalion to take up an appointment on the permanent staff of the 3rd Volunteer Battalion in Pollockshaws.

Major A. F. Mackenzie, M.V.O., in making the presentation referred to the long connection the Colour Sergeant had with the Battalion, over 19 years, 12 of which had been spent in Companies which he had commanded, and he felt like parting with an old friend rather than a comrade in arms and in the name of the Officers, N.C.Os. and men wished him prosperity in his new career.

Colour Sergeant Swan in reply, after thanking all ranks for the good will shown him, said he felt keenly his severing his connection with the Battalion after it having been his home for such a long time, and more especially leaving the Company where he has had the support of all ranks during the four years he has been their Colour Sergeant, and trusting that no one on their arrival in Scotland would slight him in their round of visits before settling down in Civilian life.

On the conclusion of his reply three hearty cheers were given for him and Mrs. Swan, the heartiness of which showed that each one of the Company wished him God Speed.

PRO PATRIA.

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Grenadier Company in Camp.

On Wednesday, 2nd December, "G" Company, under Major Mackenzie, M.V.O. went into camp about 6 miles from Barracks to complete their Course of Field Training.

The Company paraded at 8.15 a.m., and underwent the ordeal of being Photographed for an American Magazine before marching off.

After leaving the Cantonment an advanced guard was thrown out to clear the way, but managed to reach Camp about 10-30 without having encountered any opposition, the baggage which had left about an hour previous under the charge of Lieutenant The Honourable R. Bruce was on the ground before us, and no time was lost in getting things in ship shape order, as the sun was by this time getting rather objectionable, it was deemed advisable to suspend operations until 4 p.m., when the Company tried their hand at damming a stream, for bathing purposes, which flowed past the Western side of the camp. Although the work was carried out in proper fashion, labour seemed to have been in vain (except for instructional purposes), as the muddy condition of the bed of the stream made it impossible for it to be used for the purpose intended.

Thursday morning found us putting the camp in a state of defence with trenches, sangars, walls, ditches, etc. After that had been completed we were ready for any enemy, no matter in what numbers.

Friday saw us on the road by 6.30 a.m., to take up a line of Outpost and fight a Rear guard action outside Khondeva Keil village to oppose the Battalion under Captain Darrock invading camp. Who got the best of matters I can't say, each Commander claiming the honour, so I suppose it must rest there.

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On Friday evening permission was given to hold an open air Concert, which was presided over by Major Mackenzie and proved a great success.

Saturday morning found us striking camp preparatory to our return to Barracks.

On arrival of the Transport no time was lost in getting loaded up, and by 8 o'clock we were on the road home, having spent a most instructive and enjoyable four days under Service Conditions.

———:o:———

Boxing at Madras.

Private McNiff, our well known exponent of the "noble art," journeyed down to Madras to take part in the all India Boxing competition which took place in the capital city of the benighted Presidency last month. Although not successful in carrying off the chief honours, still our man made a brave show getting into the final of the light weights, and only lost by the odd point in an extra round. However, better luck next time, and we congratulate McNiff on the good show he made and hope with him that next time the luck will be on his side.

We cull the following accout of McNiff's fights from the *Madras Times* :—

GR. ALEXANDER, 55TH BAT. R.F.A.—PTE. MCNIFF, 2ND A. AND S. HIGHLANDERS.

1ST ROUND—McNiff soon got in a right swing which staggered his opponent, who, after he had regained his feet, was kept on the defensive. Alexander tried hard to touch the Highlander's face, but his attempts were futile, and he soon received another stunning hit from McNiff.

2ND ROUND—Alexander was the first to attack and planted a left hand hit on McNiff's face. This warmed McNiff, who replied with both left and right. Alexander tried hard to punish his opponent, who dealt him blow after blow which staggered him.

3RD ROUND—Both men began cautiously till the Highlander planted a good right hand blow on his opponent's face. Alexander retaliated with two or three ineffectual blows. McNiff then lunged out with his left and right and looked dangerous. He punished his opponent, who swung him off. The Highlander finished the round by jabbing the gunner and was as fresh as a daisy at the conclusion of the fight. McNiff won the fight.

PTE. FOWKES, 1ST LEICESTERS—PTE. MCNIFF, 2ND A. AND S. HIGHLANDERS.

1ST ROUND—McNiff opened proceedings with blows on Fowke's ribs,and then on his face, but the latter stopped several blows. McNiff then delivered his blows in rapid succession and floored Fowkes, who soon got up and resumed the fight. When time was called, McNiff seemed to have had the best of the round.

2ND ROUND—Fowkes led off with left swing which McNiff warded off, and replied with a right swing. After a few interesting exchanges, Fowkes adopted jabbing tactics, and his opponent rushed him. Fowkes' guard stood him in good stead. McNiff again seemed to have the best of the fight.

3RD ROUND—Each determined to do his best and after a few not serious exchanges, the work became warm for both, when it was seen that Fowke's glove was undone, but he fought on. The Highlander with a strong right swing sent Fowkes to the floor. The fight was stopped to allow Fowkes to have his glove fastened. Fowkes then resorted to jabbing and secured a good ring swing on his opponent's ribs, but received a couple of stingers from McNiff, who scored well.

McNiff secured the favourable verdict of the judges.

LIGHT WEIGHTS UP TO 10ST.

PTE. MCNIFF, 2ND A. AND S. HIGHLANDERS—L. CORPL. SAUNDERSON, 1ST LEICESTERS.

1ST ROUND—Saunderson opened with a straight left-hand blow which was warded off by McNiff, who put in a couple of right and left swings and followed them up with jabbing. Saunderson guarded well and a sharp exchange ensued. Saunderson then swung out with his left, McNiff slipped to the floor and after regaining his feet rushed his opponent, Saunderson put in a smart left swing. McNiff seemed to have the best of the round.

2ND ROUND—While Saunderson planted a straight left on McNiff's face the latter got in twice with his right and Saunderson slipped in the exchange that followed. On rising Saunderson got a good right swing in and followed with two similar hits. The men then closed with each other, and in breaking away Saunderson ducked and evaded a nasty right swing by McNiff. The round seemed even.

3RD ROUND—Saunderson led off with a straight left-hand blow and McNiff rushed him and punched his ribs. After this Saunderson backed round the ring never giving his opponent a chance of hitting him. McNiff soon worked up and put in a good swing with his right-hand and Saunderson was forced to a few exchanges, but soon again evaded his opponent. McNiff tiring of these tactics forced the fight by rushing Saunderson and jabbing him. McNiff had the best of this round.

The judges declared in favour of McNiff.

LIGHT WEIGHTS UP TO 10ST.

CORPORAL CUNNINGHAM, 1ST LEICESTERS, AND PRIVATE MCNIFF, 2ND A. AND S. HIGHLANDERS.

1ST ROUND—McNiff led off with his right, and Cunningham responded with a couple of swings. The latter followed with a few more similar hits, and the former hit Cunningham's ribs and face. The round seemed even.

2ND ROUND—Cunningham rushed McNiff, who pushed him off. The latter missed a strong right swing. The former put in a few swings while McNiff got in with his left.

3RD ROUND—Cunningham led off with his left, and McNiff tried hard to get at his opponent's face. Cunningham was too crafty and evaded punishment. McNiff succeeded in getting in a good right wing.

4TH ROUND—The Highlander seemed determined to punish his opponent, but Cunningham became more wary.

5TH ROUND—McNiff opened by attacking his opponent's ribs, and seemed determined to knock him out. Cunningham, ever on the alert, evaded the blows intended to knock him out. A ding-dong set to ensued, in which Cunningham got in some very pretty hits with his left, while the opponent tried hard to wind him.

The Judges were undecided, and another round had to be fought.

EXTRA ROUND—Cunningham won.

———:o:———

Speaking of anyone "taking umbrage" says a writer in "Military Mail," recalls a little incident that happened in one of the Zulu wars which will, I fancy, be new to most. I might add that it is quite true, and that the hero of it is to-day occupying an important position in India. He was on duty one night—and in those days he was only a lately joined subaltern—and peace negotiations with the natives were going forward. The General to whose staff the young fellow was attached left

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instructions with him that if any news came through regarding the progress of these negotiations it was to be conveyed to him instantly. Consequently the General found himself roused up about 4 a.m. by the young officer, who reported that a telegram had come through saying that negotiations were on the point of being broken off "as a section of the natives had taken umbrage." "I have searched the map carefully sir," the youngster went on, "but I cannot find the village marked anywhere." "What village are you talking off? asked the mystified General. "Umbrage, sir," was the innocent reply of the youngster, who conceived that another town had fallen into the enemy's hands. And as "Umbrage" he was known for many a long day to his companions.

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The Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association.

Officers' Widows and Daughters.

Chairman and Treasurer, Col. Sir James Gildea, C.V.O., C.B.

To The Editor of "The Thin Red Line"

Dear Sir,—May I venture to ask for your support in bringing the object contained in the enclosed papers to the notice of your readers, as you very kindly did some three or four years ago when the scheme was first started.

Your help in this matter will be very acceptable.

Believe me,

Yours truly,

JAMES GILDEA.

23, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S.W.
25th November, 1903.

COPY OF A LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE PRESS.

Sir,—In 1899 a scheme was initiated for the benefit of the Widows and unmarried Daughters (whose incomes do not exceed £100 per annum) by the provision of Apartments rent free, on the same system as those at Hampton Court and Kensington Palaces are graciously granted by the King.

Sufficient Funds were then privately subscribed to provide for twelve ladies: and the Widows and Daughters of four Officers of the Rank of General, two of Colonels, two of Commanders, and four of Captains, were temporarily accommodated.

So much having been done during the War, not only for the Wives and Families of Soldiers and Sailors, but for the men themselves (this Association alone having given in relief close on One Million and a Quarter Pounds to the former) it is felt that more should now be done to make some better provision for the Widows and Daughters of Officers in their declining years.

In view of the recent laudable efforts of the War Office (in reducing Officers' expenses, &c.) to attract to the Army as a Profession men of smaller means, there may in the future arise an increased necessity for providing for the Widows and Daughters of Officers, especially of those killed in action at an early period of their career.

There are at the present time over 60 Candidates waiting election, and there is little doubt that as the scheme becomes more generally known the numbers will be largely increased.

In consequence of the high rent demanded for suitable Apartments, and the uncertainty of their tenure, it has been decided at once to make a commencement by building, as Funds are forthcoming, suites of self-contained Apartments on a very desirable Freehold Site which has been obtained at Wimbledon.

The benefit of a free home, with no anxieties as to rent and taxes, to those who have a small but barely sufficient income for maintenance cannot be over-rated. Those only who are connected with Naval and Military Funds and Institutions know of the distressing cases which are continually coming to light of Officers' Widows and Daughters, who, from the natural delicacy of their position, seldom make their wants known; but who are bravely battling against their altered position, in most cases brought about through circumstances over which they had no control, and for which they were in no way responsible.

I have also to announce that it has the entire approval of the Queen, and Her Majesty has contributed the sum of Five Thousand Pounds to its extension out of Her War Fund.

The council confidently appeals both to the Public and the Service on their behalf.

Contributions crossed "Coutts and Co." and made payable to me as Treasurer of the Officers' Branch of the Association will be thankfully received and acknowledged, and any further information supplied that may be desired.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
JAMES GILDEA,
Chairman and Treasurer.

———:o:———

QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL FOR SONS OF SCOTTISH SAILORS AND SOLDIERS.

The revised report by the Sub-Committee as to the general lines of procedure and organisation has now been issued. The Sub-Committee recommend the following as the general lines on which the school should be organised and established:—

A.—GENERAL LINES OF INSTITUTION.

1. The site to be in a central and healthy locality.

2. The internal organisation of the institution as regards establishment and discipline to be on lines similar to those adopted in the Duke of York's and Royal Hibernian Schools. (See recommendations under Head B).

3. The education afforded to the pupils to be of two classes—(a) a thorough elementary education, and (b) in exceptional cases a higher education for boys between thirteen and fifteen, of a character giving definite preparation in special subjects for the practical work of life.

4. A sound elementary instruction in handicrafts which would be specially useful in the public services will be provided, and it is hoped that the foundation of an efficient training may be afforded suited either as a preliminary to a useful and honourable career in the more technical and scientific branches of the King's service or to apprenticeship in civil life.

5. Admission to the school to be open to the sons of soldiers belonging to Scottish Regiments and of Scotsmen serving in the Royal Navy, the Royal Artillery, the Royal Engineers, and other Navy and Army organisations, also in Militia battalions and Volunteer Service Companies. The preference in admission to be regulated as follows:—1st, Orphans. 2nd, Those whose fathers have been killed in action or died on foreign or home service. 3rd, Those who have lost their mothers and whose fathers are serving abroad. 4th, Those whose fathers are ordered on service abroad and whose parents have other children to maintain. 5th, Those of sailors and soldiers generally.

B.—GENERAL CONSTITUTION OF GOVERNING BODY AND STAFF.

6. In view of the fact that the initial cost of the school is being provided by public subscription and the maintenance guaranteed by His Majesty's Government, the governing body may be constituted as follows:—(a) A limited number of *ex-officio* Governors occupying high official and representative positions, including a representative of the Education Department for Scotland. (b) A considerable proportion of Governors selected from the Naval and Military services by the Admiralty and

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the G.O.C. Scottish District respectively. (c) A certain number of Governors elected by the subscribers, future vacancies being filled up by appointment by the Secretary for Scotland.

7. The general supervision and command of the school to be under a commandant responsible to the governing body, who must be an officer of not less than field officer's rank. The commandant to have the assistance of another officer to act as Adjutant, Secretary, and Quartermaster. These officers to be appointed by the Secretary of State for War.

8. The general staff of the school for purposes of internal organisation, discipline, drill and physical education to consist of a sergeant-major and sergeant-instructors selected from the non-commissioned officers of the Scottish Regiments of His Majesty's Army, or soldiers serving in the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers. These to be selected by the governing body.

9. The teaching Staff to be selected from Army schoolmasters, and to be appointed by the Secretary of State for War, and to consist of a headmaster and such number of assistant masters as may be found necessary. The headmaster to be responsible to the commandant for the efficiency of the teaching staff. The school to be inspected by the War Office.

10. The domestic staff to consist of a matron and such female servants as may be necessary. Any male domestics to be under the supervision of the sergeant-major.

11. A minister of the Church of Scotland to be nominated as senior chaplain, but facilities to be given to all pupils to attend divine service when possible at churches of their own denomination, and to the clergy of all denominations for visitation of the pupils, and for the holding of services as may be found suitable within the school buildings. The character of the school to be strictly unsectarian.

C.—RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO PROCEDURE IN FORMULATING AND STARTING THE SCHEME.

12. (Carried out and superseded).

13. On a sufficient sum being obtained, steps to be taken for obtaining a Royal Warrant authorising the establishment of the school and incorporating the governing body.

14. The Royal Warrant shall express that the maintenance of the school and the chapel, and the fulfilment of all obligations connected with the property, shall be borne by the War Office.

D.—RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO SPECIAL CONSTITUTION OF GOVERNING BODY.

15. The governing body to consist of eight naval and military and eight civilian members.

16. The military members to be appointed as provided in par. 6 (b), and the War Office to be asked to arrange and intimate the number of naval and military members respectively.

17. The civilian members to consist of the Secretary for Scotland, the Lord Justice General of Scotland (or the Lord Justice Clerk if nominated by him in his place), one representative appointed by the Scottish Education Department, five members—one representing the city of Edinburgh, one representing the city of Glasgow, one representing the counties north of the Forth (including Perth, Forfar, Kincardine, Aberdeen, Banff, Elgin and Nairn, Orkney and Shetland, Inverness, Ross and Cromarty, Sutherland and Caithness), one representing the western district (including Lanarkshire, Dumbartonshire, Stirlingshire, Dumfriesshire, Ayrshire, Argyllshire, Buteshire, Renfrewshire, Kirkcudbright, and Wigtownshire), one representing the eastern district (including Fife, Clackmannan and Kinross, Mid-Lothian, Linlithgowshire, Haddingtonshire, Peebles and Selkirk, Roxburghshire, Berwickshire). These to be elected in the first instance by the subscribers connected with these districts, and future vacancies to be filled by appointment of the Secretary for Scotland,

18. The president of the governing body to be the Secretary for Scotland; the vice-president and president of the finance committee to be the G. O. C. Scottish District.

XCIII. SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS.

Inter-Company Football Tournament (League.)

Coys.	Date of Playing.	Coys.	Date of Playing.	Coys.	Date of Playing.	Coys.	Date of Playing
A v. G	4—1—04	E v. G	20—0—04	A v. H	5—2—04	G v. E	22—2—04
B ,, F	5—1—04	F ,, H	21—1—04	B ,, E	6—2—04	H ,, F	23—2—04
C ,, E	6—1—04	G ,, A	22—1—04	C ,, H	8—2—04	E ,, A	24—2—04
D ,, H	7—1—04	F ,, B	23—1—04	D ,, G	9—2—04	G ,, B	25—2—04
A ,, B	8—1—04	E ,, C	25—1—04	B ,, A	10—2—04	F ,, C	26—2—04
C ,, D	9—1—04	H ,, D	26—1—04	D ,, C	11—2—04	E ,, D	27—2—04
E ,, F	11—1—04	A ,, E	27—1—04	F ,, E	12—2—04	F ,, A	29—2—04
G ,, H	12—1—04	B ,, G	28—1—04	H ,, G	13—2—04	H ,, B	1—3—04
A ,, C	13—1—04	C ,, F	29—1—04	C ,, A	15—2—04	G ,, C	2—3—04
B ,, D	14—1—04	D ,, E	30—1—04	D ,, B	16—2—04	F ,, D	3—3—04
E ,, H	15—1—04	A ,, F	1—2—04	H ,, E	17—2—04	H ,, A	4—3—04
G ,, F	16—1—04	B ,, H	2—2—04	F ,, G	18—2—04	E ,, B	5—3—04
A ,, D	18—1—04	C ,, G	3—2—04	D ,, D	19—2—04	H ,, C	7—3—04
B ,, C	19—1—04	D ,, F	4—2—04	C ,, B	20—2—04	G ,, D	8—3—04

COMMITTEE:—Captain P. D. McCandlish, Lieut. R. R. Forbes, and 1 man per Company.
REFEREES FOR THE TOURNAMENT;—Color-Sergt. Clarke, Color-Sergt. Durnan, Sergt. Wallace.
Protests must (with the customary Fee) be lodged within 24 hours.
The Tournament will be played under the Amended Rules of 1903-4.
Postponed games to be played at the end of Tournament.

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Ninety-third Calendar for February, 1904.

1 M. Fategarh for Cawnpore with Hope's Brigade, 1858. Left Durband, Ensofzaie, for Sialkote, 1864. (End of Umbeyla Campaign).
2 Tu. Arrived Bareilly from Kushalgarh, encamping on Maidan, 1898, (from Tochi Field Force). Annual inspection by Major-General Sir W. H. Meiklejohn, Bareilly, 1900.
3 W. Conclusion of annual inspection, 1900.
4 Th. General William Wemyss of Wemyss *d.* Colonel, 1822. Moved into Barracks at Bareilly in Relief of Wing, Cameronians, 1898.
5 F.
6 S.
7 S. Re-embarked, New Orleans, preparatory to returning to England, 1815. Arrived Cawnpore with Hope's Brigade 1858. Arrived Mian Mir from Umballa, 1894.
8 M. Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Hyslop, Bart., G.C.B., Colonel 1822. Inter-Company Cricket Tournament, 1900, Clock won by "B" Company.
9 Tu. Final Football League, 1897-98. Won by "F" Company.
10 W. Robert Dale, Lieut.-Colonel, 1814.
11 Th.
12 F. Wing arrived Unao, escorting seige train; Indian Mutiny Campaign, 1858.
13 S. Wing arrived Unao escorting seige train, 1858. Annual Inspection by Brigadier-General Sir W. H. Meiklejohn, Bareilly, 1899.
14 S. Embarked H. M. Indian transport *Jumna*, 1870. Annual Inspection by Brigadier General Ellis, Nowshera, 1896.
15 M. Left Bombay for home, 1870; strength 22 Officers, 520 non-commissioned officers and men, 49 women, 93 children. Colonel McBean, V.C., relinquished command, 1878; retired with rank of Honorary Major-General. Annual inspection, Nowshera, 1896.
16 Tu. Establishment increased from 750 to 850 rank and file, 1852. William Wallingford Knollys, Lieut.-Colonel, 1878. Draft of 150 N.C.O's. and men left Fort William for active service with the 1st Battalion in South Africa, 1902.
17 W. Outbreak of Cholera at Fort William, six deaths, 1902.
18 Th. Inter-Company Physical Drill Competition, 1899; won by "C" Company.
19 F.
20 S. Col. Robert Spark *d.* Elgin, 1852, after 45 years' service in 93rd; Lorenzo Rothe, Lieut.-Colonel. Left jungles of Oudh for Sabathu, 1859. (End of Mutiny Campaign). Right Wing left Bareilly for Shahjahanpur; 1899.
21 S. Head-quarters left Bareilly for Ranikhet, 1901.
22 M.
23 Tu.
24 W. Head-quarters left Bareilly for Ranikhet, 1901.
25 Th.
26 F. Left Unao for final advance on Lucknow, 1858.
27 S. Embarked at Plymouth on board hired transport *Himalaya* for Malta *en route* for Crimea, 1854. Arrived Sialkot from Umbeyla Campaign, 1854.
28 S. Rohilcund District Assault-at-Arms, 1899. (Second Day). Won "Tug-of-War" and "Physical Drill." Tug-of-War Team won Open Challenge Shield at Presidency meeting, Calcutta, 1903.
29 M.

Regimental Gazette

APPOINTMENTS.

To be pay Sergeant of "G" Company :—No. 4644, Sergeant D. Ritchie, "G" Company.

To be pay Sergeant "B" Company :— No. 3077, Sergeant C. Johnstone, "D" Company.

To be provisional Lance Corporals :— No. 3698, Private F. Trant, "A" Company (while employed as volunteer drill instructor); No. 4619, Private W. McKinnon, "G" Company (while attending the Acting school master's class at Lucknow.)

To be Piper :—No. 7807, Private A. Taylor, "A" Company dated 9th October 1903.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 2d per diem :—"*F*" *Company.*

No. 6028, Pte. A. Hamilton | No. 6179, Pte. J. Davidson.
No. 5837, Private W. Lawrence.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 6357, Pte. G. McMillan | No. 6335, Pte. D. Donaldson

"*H*" *Company,*

No, 6355, Pte. G. Boyd | No. 5726, Pte. R. Sibbald.

At 1d per diem :—"*C*" *Company.*

No. 7175, Pte. R. Giles | No. 5543, Pte. W. Hogg.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 7803, Pte. R. Brimner | No. 6434, Pte. R. Turpie.
No. 7874, Pte. J. McIntosh | No. 8208, Pte. W. Stirling.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 7516, Pte. P. Paton | No. 7128, D. Cameron.
No. 6540 Private J. McKenzie.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 8279, Pte. D. Dyer | No. 6980 Pte. W. Grant.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 6879, Dr. D. Clarke | No. 8187 Pte. J. Gilmour.
,, 6347, Pte. H. Lee | ,, 8205 ,, D. Cledhorn.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 6453, Pte. T. Craig | No. 6821, Pte. R. Palmer.
No. 5546, Piper J. McLachlan.

CERTIFICATES.

The undermentioned N.C.O's. have passed the professional examination for promotion to Sergeant and Corporal respectively.

For promotion to Sergeant :—

No. 4878,	Lance Sergeant	J. McLachlan,	"G" Company.
,, 5678,	,,	T. Scott,	"C" ,,
,, 2425,	,,	A. McKinness,	"B" ,,
,, 5357,	Corporal	J. Stewart,	"H" ,,
,, 6387,	,,	J. Dougall,	"G" ,,
,, 6569,	,,	D. McCallum	"A" ,,
,, 6098,	,,	T. Young,	"A" ,,

For promotion to Corporal :—

No. 6391,	Lance Corporal	J. Melville,	"E" ,,
,, 4682,	,, ,,	A. Grey,	"H" ,,

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No. 5118, ,, ,, D. McLean, "E" Coy.
,, 4771, ,, ,, J. Oliver, "E" ,,
,, 4696, ,, ,, B. Harris, "B" ,,
,, 7191, ,, ,, J. McKenzie "B" ,,

EXTENSION OF SERVICE.

To complete Twelve years' Service with the Colours :—
No. 5155, Corporal F. Johnstone, "A" Company.
,, 7807, Piper S. Taylor, "A" ,,
To complete eight years' service with the Colours :—
No. 5811, Private M. McGinley, "E" Company.
,, 5762, ,, J. McEachern, "F" ,,

INTER-COMPANY TRANSFER.

,, 8790, Drummer J. Holland, "A" to "F" Company.

GRANTED MESSING ALLOWANCE.

No. 7708, Private G. H. Smith, "F" Company.

CHANGE OF NAME.

No. 5734, Private A. Gibson, "A" Company, has been permitted to assume the name of Alexander Pilmer.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

The number, 9321, to Private Robert Brown, "B" Company.

Discharge by Purchase :—No. 6709, Private G. Scarff, "A" Company, dated 16th December, 1903.

Discharged—No. 9188, Boy E. M. Kirk, "F" Company, dated 23rd December, 1903,

Embarked on the H. T. "Soudan," on the 23rd December, 1903 (to Army Reserve) No. 5594, Private J. Macgillvray, "E" Company.

TAKEN ON STRENGTH OF MARRIED ESTABLISHMENT.

Mary, wife of No. 7564, Pioneer Sergeant J. H. Snowdon, "G" Company, dated 21st December, 1903; Alison Edgar, wife of No. 5927, Sergeant D. Stobie, "A" Company, dated 21st December, 1903; Florence Martha, wife of No. 4293 Corporal D. G. Newall, "D" Company, dated 21st December, 1903; Jane Hay, Daughter of No. 7517, Corporal M. Murdoch, "C" Company, dated 17th November, 1903; Joy Violet, Daughter of No. 4338, Lance Corporal F. Bracey, "F" Company, dated 19th November, 1903.

—:o:—

Domestic Occurrences.

BIRTHS.

At Jalapahur, on the 17th November, 1903, the wife of No. 7517, Corporal F. M. Murdoch, "C" Company, of a daughter.

At Jalapahur, on the 19th November, 1903, the wife of No. 4339, Lance Corporal F. Bracey, "F" Company, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

At St. Andrews, Bombay, on 21st December, 1903, the Rev. J. Cameron officiating, Sergeant David Watters Stobie, 93rd Highlanders, to Alison Edgar, second daughter of Mr. John Aitchison, Morningside, Edinburgh.

——:o:——

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION.

The following are the rates of subscription to the *Thin Red Line* :—

With Postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the Regiment ...	Rs. 2 per annum.
Officers, and those not connected with the Regiment	Rs. 3 per annum.
Ditto, including Bound Volume ...	Rs. 7 per annum.

——o——

Subscriptions.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	a.
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Lieut. Col. J. Wolridge-Gordon	9	0
Major A. E. J. Cavendish, C.M.G.	3	0
Major A. F. MacKenzie, M.V.O.	3	0
Capt. H. H. G. Hyslop	3	0
Rev. J. Thomson	6	0
Lieut. A. J. H. Maclean	30	8
Lieut. S. Langton	3	0
Lieut. R. R. Forbes	7	0
2nd Lieut. A. E. Kennedy	3	0
2nd Lieut. C. P. James	7	0
2nd Lieut. W. J. Cuninghame	4	0
2nd Lieut. R. D. Falconer-Stewart	7	0
2nd Lieut. R. J. Maclaine	3	0
2nd Lieut. C. O. Hay	3	0
2nd Lieut. Halford	3	0
2nd Lieut. Anderson	0	8
2nd Lieut. Carroll	0	8
2nd Lieut. Birdwood	0	8
2nd Lieut. Airy	0	8
2nd Lieut. Hogg	0	8
2nd Lieut. Standbridge	0	8
Sergeant Major H. Ditcham	4	0
Sergeant Major A. Macdonald	11	8
A. Bruce, Esq.	3	12
Quarter Master Sergeant S. Gurney	6	0
Sergeant H. Kerr	3	8
Pte. C. Ross	2	0

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following papers :—

"The H. L. I. Chronicle"	for October.
"The Sapper" ... ... ,,	,,
"St. George's Gazette" ... ... ,,	November.
"The Oakleaf" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Dragon" ... ... ,,	,,
,, The Queen's Own Gazette" ... ... ,,	,,
"The A. S. C. Journal" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Globe and Laurel" ... . ,,	,,
"The Die-Hards' Doings" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Globe and Laurel" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Indian Volunteer Record and Military News" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Suffolk Gazette" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Die-hards Doings" ... ... ,,	,,
"The A. S. C. Journal" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Lilywhite's Gazette" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Oakleaf" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Tiger and the Rose" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Dragon" ... ... ,,	,,
"The Military Mail"	Weekly.
"The Aldershot News"	,,
"The Stirling Sentinel"	,,
"The Rothesay Express"	,,
"The Oban Times"	,,

NOTICE.

In order to encourage, as much as possible, the production of photographic views and groups of regimental interest, the Editor is prepared, out of the Funds of the "Thin Red Line," to bear the cost of publishing copies of such, from time to time, on condition that the party or parties desirous of having the view or group re-produced are willing to bear the cost of the photographic block required. In this way the Editor hopes to keep up a monthly issue of groups or views of Regimental interest without unduly straining the funds of the paper.

For further information apply to THE MANAGER.

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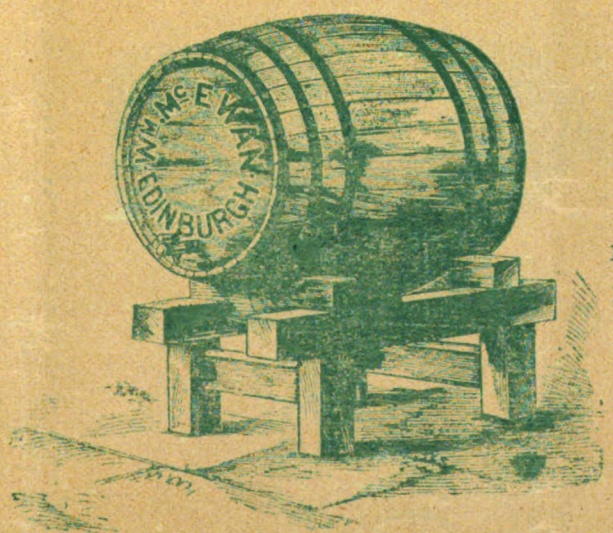

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FEBRUARY 1904

XCIII

SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS

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XCIII
SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Battalion (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 10—Vol. IX.] POONA—FEBRUARY, 1904. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

New Years' day found each Company ready for the annual celebration. All the Companies had arranged for a special dinner, and the Bungalows were tastefully decorated for the occasion. "G" Company, who were still under canvas, had their dinner in the Regimental Coffee Shop. The Commanding Officer visited all the dinners, the usual *feu-de-joie* of cheering signalising his circuitous progress round the Bungalows. Company Officers also visited their respective commands, their healths being enthusiastically drunk with honours, Highland and otherwise. The good feeling so characteristic of the occasion predominated.

Before all this there was the usual Proclamation Parade, which took the form of a General Parade for the troops in the Garrison. An additional interest was given to the occasion as being the first time the new Commander of the forces, General Sir Archibald Hunter, reviewed the troops.

There was the usual Flag Staff erected in the Centre of the grounds, at which the General and his staff were ranged; the Infantry, Cavalry, and Artillery were disposed in front. After a few evolutions we fired a *feu-de-joie*, being preceded by a salute from north and south by the R.F.A. The General then distributed medals. Among the recipients we were glad to see our Sergt. Major, . who received his Long Service Medal. A number of men of the Battalion received their Queen's South African Medals, and not a few received the coveted King's South African medal with two clasps. After the medal distribution we marched past in column of double companies, on completion of which, the troops marched off to their respective barracks. There was, according to the *Poona Observer*, a record attendance of spectators, who however could hardly have enjoyed the spectacle standing in the full blaze of the sun. Sir Archibald complimented the men on their excellent appearance.

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During the month the Battalion has been through four days Field Firing at Ganeshkhind. The Right half Battalion left Wanowrie for this purpose on Monday the 11th instant, under the command of Major A. E. J. Cavendish, C.M.G., and returned on Saturday the 16th instant. The Camp was left standing for the Left half Battalion, which, under Major A. F. MacKenzie, M.V.O., pro-

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ceeded to Ganeshkhind on Monday the 18th inst., and returned on Saturday the 23rd. The shooting was exceptionally good and all ranks enjoyed the time in camp. The camping ground is nicely situated on the west side of the Ganeshkhind road, opposite the Government House. The surrounding district is best described as a typical Field Firing ground.

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Again we have to chronicle changes in pay and command of companies. On the sudden departure of Captain McCandlish on conducting duty to England, Lieut. Gillatt took over pay and command of "A" Company, and on Lieut. Langton being detailed to attend a special garrison class, the pay and command of "H" Company devolved on 2nd Lieut. James, who, however, was not long afterwards attached to "B" Company on its forming the British Infantry detachment at Kirkee, and consequently the pay and command of "H" Company once more became vacant, and was taken over by 2nd Lieut. Cuninghame, who returned from Ahmednagar on the breaking up of the Boer Camp.

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In the beginning of January Capt. McCandlish and Lieut. A. J. H. Maclean received sudden orders to proceed to England on conducting duty with details. As far as is known to us however, Capt. McCandlish intends to return almost immediately, whereas Lieut. Maclean has obtained six months leave.

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On the 21st inst. Capt. Hyslop proceeded on 10 days leave, and on the 14th Lieut.-Col. Paterson availed himself of 10 days also, which he spent shooting.

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Another of the attached officers has left the battalion in the person of 2nd Lieut. Henderson, who has been posted to the 7th Rajputs, stationed at Lucknow, and to whom we offer our congratulations.

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It is our pleasant duty to congratulate Colour Sergeant Ewan, on his success at the school of Musketry, Pachmari, where he qualified with distinction. We have also to offer our congratulations to Lance Corporal Green on his appointment of Sergt. Drummer to the 2nd Royal Scots.

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The 7th of January witnessed the departure of 26 men proceeding to England in the Hired Transport "*Sicilia.*"

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"A" Company were struck off for Field Training on the 4th January, and the Band for Musketry on the 11th.

Shortly after the return from field-firing at Ganeshkhind, "B" Company proceeded to Kirkee, strength 70 rank and file, under command of 2nd Lieut. James, in relief of the company furnished by the East Lancashire Regiment. Owing to the paucity of officers with the company at the time, 2nd Lieut. James and Jackson were attached to it for duty. On the return of Captain Hyslop from leave, 2nd Lieut. Jackson rejoined head-quarters. We hear it rumoured that the detachment at Kirkee is relieved every three months.

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The D.A.A.G. for Musketry, Major Johnstone, paid the battalion his annual official visit on the 9th January when he tested the efficiency of "E" and "F" companies. After their dismissal, he next examined the subalterns and N.C.Os.

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The Committee of the Bombay Horse and Dog Show have decided to add a class (No. 14) for British Soldier's Dogs to the Prospectus of the Show, which is to be held on the 18th of February at Bombay. A silver medal and prize will be given. Judging from the numerous and varied specimens one encounters on a tour round barracks the regiment ought to contribute largely to this class, and we wish the owners of some of those rare and unique quadrupeds every success in the competition.

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We regret to have omitted from our January number an account of "The Service Order Competition," which took place at Poona on the 18th December. Our team, under Sergeant Johnstone, did well until they came to the Gymnasium compound, when one of the team found the 10 foot wall too much for him. This delayed the team considerably, and caused them to take 2 minutes 48 seconds longer than any other team. Otherwise they did well, doubling up to 400 yards firing point in good style, and by the time the whistle blew, 11 plates were down.

Points were given for time, style, and efficiency. Captain Holbrook, D.A.A.G. was Judge to the Team.

The Result:—

	plates.	Time.
1st—East Lancashire	10	21—27
2nd—Cheshire Regiment.....	11	23—50
3rd—Connaught Rangers....	1	23—12
4th—A. & S. Highlanders...	11	26—0

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We have to congratulate Lance Corporal Finlayson on his having obtained first prize for the Highland Fling; first for Sword Dancing; and a third for Pipe Playing at the Royal Scots Regimental Sports at Kamptee. He received Silver Medals for

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his two firsts, and a money prize for his third in pipe playing. We take this opportunity of apologising for having omitted this last month.

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We desire to call the attention of our readers to Messrs. Coutts & Co's. advertisement, offering to render any assistance to such constituents as may have been inconvenienced by the suspension of Messrs. W. Watson & Co., in clearing, forwarding, and shipping of baggage, parcels, boxes, etc., also booking of passages.

—:o:—

Concert at Ganeshkhind.

—:o:—

A bonfire concert was held on the evening of 22nd January at Ganeshkhind, where the left half Battalion, under the command of Major A. F. Mackenzie, M. V. O., were camped for a week during their Field Firing Practices.

The suggestion of this favourite method of somewhat relieving the monotony of camp-life emanated, I am given to understand, from Major Mackenzie, M. V. O., who is ever so attentive to the interests of the rank and file, and particularly so where their amusement is concerned. Lieutenant Akers-Douglas was good enough to lend his piano, all the way from Poona, on which our old friend "Donal" accompanied the vocalists. The artists came boldly to the front, and with songs, recitations, and speeches, a typical evening of life in camp was whiled away. Captain Darroch and Lieutenant Forbes worked hard at their old favourites, and Corporal Markey's Coster songs went with a swing. Lieutenant Bruce related some Scotch anecdotes with a humour all his own. Special mention must be made of Private Galloway's recitations. His elocution was excellent, and his articulation perfect. In conclusion Major Mackenzie gave a short speech, in which he thanked the men for their behaviour while under canvas, that he was always glad to aid in promoting the enjoyment of such musical evenings as these, and that this one was a most appropriate close to the 23rd year of his service with the colours of the old 93rd.

The following is the Programme :—

PROGRAMME.

1 SONG	..."Killaloe" ...	...*Capt. Darroch.*
(encore)	..."Gonpir"	... "
2 SONG	..."Won't yer Bill?"	...*Copl. Markey.*
(encore)	.."You've got a long way to go"	... "
3 SONG	..."Old Kentucky Home,."	*Private Rice.*
(encore)	.."Rothesay Bay"	... "
4 HUMOROUS ANECDOTES	...	...*Lieut. Hon. R. Bruce.*
5 SONG	..."Come back Brother"	...*Private Wilson.*
6 SONG	..."Gaelic"... ...	...*Pte. Nicholson.*
7 SONG	..."There are Moments"	..*Lieut. Forbes.*
(encore)	..." Old Uncle Jeff" ...	"
8 RECITATION.	" After Majuba Hill"	...*Pte. Galloway.*
(encore)	..." The Engineer's Story".	"
9 SONG	..." Highland Soldier's Dream" ...	...*Pte. McCreath.*
10 SONG	.." Very, Very Strong"	..*Pte. Ellis.*
11 RECITATION.	" Humorous" ...	..*Pte. Harrison.*
12 SONG	..."Are we to part like this, Bill?"	...*Copl. Markey.*
13 SONG	..." True till Death"	...*Pte. McCreath.*

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

Sergeants' Mess News.

—:o:—

The Sergeants of the Right Half Battalion, who were encamped at Ganeshkhind for firing the Field Practices, played a friendly game of football against the Sergeants of the Artillery Brigade encamped at Amedh, about 2 miles to the west of the camp. A very strong wind was blowing across the field, and did much to spoil the combination of both teams. The "Gunners" were a very heavy team, and one was loth to come in contact with them. The game was full of interest and very fast; we, however, were defeated by three goals to nil.

After the match we were entertained to dinner, and to enliven the proceedings Sergeant Perkins kindly placed his Gramophone at our disposal. After dinner Piper Smith gave a selection of marches, strathspeys and reels. He also played into the trumpet of the Gramophone and in less than five minutes we heard the same reproduced on the Gramophone. This caused a great deal of consternation among the company.

During the evening songs were sung by Sergeants Glass, Peggie, Sergeant Major Kilpatrick, Sergeant Major Drayson, and others.

At 10 p. m. the company broke up on singing "God save the King."

Everyone expressed themselves as highly pleased at the evening's amusement and the kind treatment of the Gunners. Everything that lay in their power to make an enjoyable and pleasant evening was at our disposal.

Sergeant Major Drayson occupied the chair, and to him many of the pleasing items of the programme were due.

Our team—Sergeants Glass, McQueen, Gibb, Mahony, Peggie, Scott, Alder, Sim, Brash, Colour-Sergeant McMaster, and Colour-Sergeant Clarke (Capt.)

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During the month, Sergeant Johnstone and Lance Sergeant McInnes have left us for Somaliland. We hope soon to hear of their safe arrival, and we wish them every success while they are on service. Sergeant Hayward has also left us to take up an appointment on the Indian Volunteer Staff. We wish him every success in his new surroundings.

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AN ECLIPSE BY ORDER.—Col. (crossing parade) "Sergeant Major, to-morrow there will be an eclipse of the sun. Parade will be as usual, in drill order. I shall be there to explain to the men, but, if wet or showery, the parade will take place in the drill shed."

Sergeant Major "Very good, sir."

Sergeant Major (to orderly Sergeants). By order of the C.O., to-morrow there will be an eclipse of the sun. The C.O. will superintend the eclipse, but, if wet or showery, the eclipse takes place in the drill shed.

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The Boer War.

Notes from my Diary.

By No. 6547 Private John Macdonald.

(*Continued from page 141*).

Klerksdorp is about one hundred and twenty miles south west of Pretoria, and is on the line of block houses. It is described as one of the districts of the main resistance of the Boers. Not far from us lay the Cameron Highlanders. I noticed that a fairly large force was being employed on this sweeping movement after De la Rey. On the evening of the 22nd the Indian draft received orders to relieve some of the South Wales Borderers, who were in some block houses to the west of the town. The object of the troops was to form one long line, extending from the Lichtenburg block house line to the Vaal river, and to drive the enemy on the Schoonspruit block house line. None of the columns in this sweeping movement were allowed any wheel transport, and the guns were left behind in camp. The idea was, that each column, having reached its assigned destination, would halt and then commence the drive. In this drive the magnificent endurance displayed by both officers and men was very marked. They had been twenty six hours in the saddle, a performance which few soldiers in the world could hope to equal. The prisoners confessed that they did not think such a performance possible, nor could they believe that the men who had marched the enormous distance during one night were the same men who had chased them during the day. Several interesting details happened during this drive. Five Canadians, who fell out of their column, tried to make their way back, but were surrounded by a force of Boers. They made a splendid defence for some time, but seeing their case hopeless four of them surrendered. The fifth indignantly refused and continued to fight single-handed and did not give in, until he had killed four of the enemy. Again, three men of the 2nd Mounted Infantry lost their column and seeing a camp, entered it and much to their astonishment came across five Boers. They took the Boers prisoners, but one of the Boer party managed to slip away and warn the remainder of the Boers. However the three men managed to make their escape. The exact total of the Boer casualties was 9 killed, 4 wounded, and 158 prisoners. A batch of prisoners was brought here, preparatory to being lodged in the gaol. The first among the prisoners was Landrost Neethling of Klerksdorp, waiting his turn to occupy a cell in the prison, the construction of which he had superintended and over which for years he had exercised a sort of parental jurisdiction and in which, during the war, he had placed numbers of British. He was one of the bench of Boers judges who had sentenced several prisoners to death at Wolmarans. I fancy he was feeling the irony of fate rather badly. Another prisoner was G. P. Plebrins, formerly claim inspector, and his clerk Vander Mer Philip Kock, formerly labour inspector, and grandson of General Kock, who fell at Elandslaagte, stood in the same row with I. Knobel, late customs officer; and N. Kamfer, late Landrost clerk, P. Marais, a wealthy butcher, and C. Lombard, a prominent merchant, were also present, pondering over wretched hopes and dispelled illusions. Thomas Lensk, a nephew of De la Rey, who occupied a good position in the Boer Civil Service in Pretoria, also fell in with the others. One prisoner referred to the agility with which General Liebenberg's men had disappeared and sententiously remarked that "it will cost you more sweat than blood to catch him." There is no doubt, that the Boers during this drive had a very rude hustling, even though the actual captures had not been as great as in some other recent drives. On the 28th our regiment joined General Walter Kitchener's column. On the night of 2nd April, a party of Boers made an attack on the block houses occupied by the Indian draft of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. We were successful in driving them off, and only had one man wounded. On the 25th April we were relieved of our block house line by some of the South Wales Borderers, who had just come from India. On the 27th April we received orders to entrain for Durban. I am very sorry to say that I did not see the fine old regiment again, we stopped at several stations on our way down and on the 2nd of May arrived at Durban. We received orders to escort a party of 350 Boer prisoners to India. We embarked on S. S. "*Templemore*," a hired transport ship, and on the 16th May we arrived at Bombay. We had to wait outside a short time, while the ship was inspected by the Medical Officer. We had had a very good voyage, and the food provided was a great improvement on the "*Orcana*." We then disembarked and entrained, and arrived at Umballa on the 21st May, where we handed over our prisoners. On the 24th May we arrived in Calcutta, at a little past midnight, being about four hours behind our proper time of arrival. We formed up and marched to Fort William, arriving there about 1.30 a.m. We were all very much surprised and delighted to find our new comrades waiting to receive us at that hour in the morning. After being posted to our Companies we marched off to our rooms, and there found a splendid meal awaiting us. I think it is our duty to thank all the companies for their kindness on this occasion. I must now close this diary of the War, and I only hope that I shall be able to make some splendid notes of this grand old Highland Regiment.

(End.)

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A Review at Cairo, Egypt.

Friday the 8th January being the anniversary of the accession to the throne of H. H. Abbas Humil, Khedive of Egypt, a review of the native troops in garrison was held at Abbassieh at 3-30 p.m., at which all Cairo "assisted," as the French say. I was lucky enough to get my carriage close to the saluting point, and therefore had a first rate opportunity of observing the behaviour, etc., of the troops under arms.

H.H. the Khedive arrived on the ground accompanied by a brilliant staff and a strong escort of Lancers. Immediately the Khedivial salute was given, and the flag unbent on the main flagstaff.

After receiving the state from the G.O.C. the troops were ordered to shoulder arms, and H.H. made a careful inspection by riding up and down the lines of troops.

The march past was then undertaken, the troops passing in good style in the following order :—

Squadron of Cavalry (front rank, Lancers).
Two Machine guns (horsed).
A Mule Battery.
The Cadets of the Military School.
Three Batts. of Infantry.

The Cavalry and Artillery having returned to their original ground, made way for the Infantry Brigade to march past, first in quarter column and finally in line of quarter columns. In the first march past the leading company of the last Battalion was the best, followed closely by the Cadets. In the line of quarter columns the left Battalion was badly out of its dressing, and the Cadets were also a long way out. The men carried themselves well, rifles well carried back at the "shoulder," and when at the "slope" the swing was admirable. They are a fine body of men, well set up and drilled like a machine.

The Cavalry and Machine Guns then trotted and galloped past. In the last the guns got a cheer from the spectators, but in the rear rank of the Cavalry, there was a good deal of "crowding out."

Line was then reformed on the original base, and the advance in review order was done in fine style. After the Khedivial salute had been given, all ranks, taking the time from the G.O.C., shouted their congratulations to their sovereign. It made a volume of sound, and was rather barbaric.

H. H. the Khedive rode forward, and evidently from the smiles on the face of the G.O.C., congratulated him on the good appearance, etc., of his troops.

The Infantry are still armed with the Martini-Henry, but a magazine rifle is being got ready for issue. The clothing fitted well, the white spats especially so. One Battalion had pipers. Perhaps Capt. Cox is responsible, but at present he is at Berber with his Battalion.

One noticed with regret the want of respect paid by the large majority of the European Civilians, etc., present, viz., the non-saluting of His Highness, and also of the Colours of the Battalions as they marched past. Perhaps this remark may catch some of their eyes, and this grave defect remedied by the offenders.

A. H. M.

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In Memoriam.

The morning was dawning,
The lights breaking through,
Awakened from slumbers,
With hearts beating true.

The soldiers were keen,
They had early to rise,
They marched to the heights
To take the Boers by surprise.

But, alas, 'twas too late.
They were caught in the hop!
The bullets were flying,
Which caused them to stop.

Then stretched on the sands
Of an African plain,
The heroes lay dying
And suffering great pain.

In the midst of the battle,
Our sons fought so well,
When struck by a Boer bullet
Brave Wauchope he fell

They rushed the Boer trenches
But, impeded by wires,
They were right in their midst,
Between the cross fires.

The battle is lost.
They retreat from the fray.
So, sad and disheartened
They sped on their way.

When all then is silent,
Begins the roll call,
On Magersfontein battlefield,
Where our heroes did fall.

They will live in our Memories,
Our Sons o'er the waves,
Who died in South Africa,
Our Empire to save.

R. M.

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Home and Depot Notes.

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The late Mr. C. L. Orr-Ewing, M. P. for the Ayr Burghs, who died at his Wigtownshire residence, Dunskey House, Portpatrick, on Thursday the 24th Dec., 1903, was the youngest son of the late Sir Archibald Orr-Ewing, who was created a baronet in 1886. He held a commission in the 3rd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders during the period 1880-89.

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Captain G. W. Muir has been selected for a course of instruction in signalling with a new class composed of officers and non-commissioned officers of the Regular and Auxiliary forces, which has assembled at the Army School of Signalling, Aldershot.

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The following is from a Stirling paper:—

There have been great doings at Stirling Castle during the past week. The Sergeants have had a dance, and the Corporals and Privates have also had one. Sergeant-Major Lindsay, Sergeant-Major Hardie, Sergeant-Instructor-of-Musketry Paton, Colour-Sergeant Miller, Private M'Gregor and Private Duncan looked after the interests of the soldiers and guests.

There was a holiday on Christmas Day and Colonel Hunt gave his usual entertainment to the married people and children; to the number of one hundred, in the Gymnasium. The Christmas Tree in the Armoury was dismantled by Mrs. Moulton Barrett. The Colonel's gifts to each married woman were a box of tea and a garment.

In the Sergeants' Mess on Thursday evening a smoking concert took place. The attendance included a number of civilian friends. Sergeant-Major Lindsay presided, and was supported by Sergeant-Major Hardie and Sergeant-Major Holland. An excellent musical programme was sustained by the following—Sergeant-Instructor Paton, Q.-M.-S. Martin, Sergeant-Major Hardie, Sergeant Marks, Sergeant Williamson, Mr. Smith, Sergeant Parish, Mr. Coster, Sergeant Gotts, Mr. Mirk, Mr. Dunlop, Mr D. Lindsay, Mr Whyte, Mr. Suggett, Lieut. Couper, and Colour-Sergeant Miller. The usual loyal toasts were proposed.

The New Year's dinner was served in the Gymnasium at one o'clock the fare consisting of roast meat, mutton, ham, rabbit pie, etc., together with sweets and fruits. While dinner was being served the Gymnasium was visited by the the officer in command. After dinner the floor was cleared for dancing, which was kept up till late in the evening. The music was supplied by Mr. Bowie's band.

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We offer our congratulations to Captain and Brevet Lieutenant Colonel David Henderson, D. S. O., who has been promoted Major.

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Captain F. J. Richardson, D. S. O., Captain A. H. Maclean, and Lieutenant B. J. Lang, have passed in subjects (c) (d) and (g) for promotion.

Captain A. H. Maclean obtained a "Distinguished" in Military Topography.

The Annual Returns of the 4th (Stirlingshire) V. B. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders shew a slight decrease in strength.

Strength.—The strength of the battalion at the termination of the volunteer year ending 31st October, 1903, was 839, as compared with 887 in 1902, a slight decrease of 48, the majority of whom were members between 40 and 50 years of age, so that notwithstanding the increased efficiency conditions the strength of the Battalion has been well maintained, and will compare very favourably with other country battalions in Scotland. The strength of the various detachments are as follows:—

	Eff'cnts.	Non. Eff'cnts.
Stirling (A and B Coys.),	125	5
Falkirk (C, D, and F Coys.),	257	5
Stenhousemuir (H and I Coys.)	167	1
Denny (G Coy.),	98	2
Kilsyth (K Coy.),	119	0
Lennoxtown (E Coy.),	60	0

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A draft of 36 Non-Commissioned Officers and men from the 1st Battalion are expected to embark in the H. T. *Plassy* about the 5th February for India.

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RECRUITING IN THE SCOTTISH DISTRICT.

The following is a statement of recruiting in the Scottish district during the year ended 31st December, 1903:—

District.	Regular Army. Nos.	Militia. Nos.
Edinburgh	610	467
Glasgow	886	810
1st Regimental District	143	150
21st Do.	98	146
25th Do.	158	148
26th Do.	260	162
42nd Do.	597	516
71st Do.	199	139
72nd Do.	63	111
75th Do.	193	130
79th Do.	87	99
91st Do.	278	304
Grand total	3554	3182

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The 91st still survive in the contest for the Army Cup, having disposed of the 1st Royal Scots in the 2nd round. They have now entered the third round, and meet the 2nd Durham Light Infantry, whose tussles with the 2nd Royal Fusiliers will long be remembered.

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Death of Crimean Veterans.

It is with deepest regret that we have so soon again to chronicle the death of two more of those find old heroes who stood in the The Thin Red Line of Glorious Memory.

William Fraser,

One of the very few survivors in this district of the famous "Thin Red Line," passed away at his residence, 80 Temple Park Crescent, North Merchiston, Edinburgh, on Sunday, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Deceased was born in the parish of Kilmorack, Inverness-shire, on 29th December, 1817. He enlisted in the 93rd Regiment, or Sutherland Highlanders, at Inverness, in 1839, and was discharged on pension in July, 1851, after twenty-one and a half years' service with

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his regiment. He served in Canada, through the whole of the Crimean campaign, all through the campaign in India during the Mutiny in 1857-59. For these services he held the Crimean medal with two clasps, the Turkish medal, the Indian medal (Lucknow) with two clasps, and for various distinguished acts, long service, and good conduct, was awarded another medal.

During the Crimean war he was an attendant on the Medical officers in the barracks at Kululi, on the Bosphorus. Dr. Patrick Heron Watson said of him—"When I was laid up with typhus fever, Fraser attended me, waiting on me faithfully and constantly, and nursing me with every care and kindness." According to Colonel Ross, commanding the 93rd, deceased "bore an excellent character in the regiment for sobriety, integrity, and intelligence." In 1893 he received from Lord Roberts the "veteran's" silver badge; and with many other old soldiers, was present in Edinburgh Castle at their inspection by King Edward in May last. For several years deceased acted as an attendant in the Royal Asylum, Morningside. It is with unblemished character that Mr. Fraser has departed—loved and respected by all who knew him.

JOHN GRAHAM.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Mr. John Graham, late of the Caledonian Bank, who passed away at his residence, Montague Row, on Wednesday, at the age of 77, after a brief illness. Although Mr. Graham had been in failing health for some time, the end came unexpectedly. Deceased, who was a native of Glasgow, came with his parents to Inverness in his infancy, and when a lad of some twenty summers threw in his fortunes with the gallant 93rd Highlanders, under whose colours he served with distinction through the Crimean and Indian Mutiny, in the former of which he fought at Alma, Balaclava and the seige of Sebastopol, while he had also the honour of serving under the "old Brigadier" at that supreme moment when the veteran commander's voice rang out clear and shrill in face of the Russian onslaught. "We'll hae nane but Hielan' bonnets here." The deceased, who had been promoted to the rank of Colour-Sergeant, had scarcely arrived home with his regiment after the cessation of hostilities when he was again on his way to India. Arriving there, he underwent all the privations and dangers of the campaign, being present with his regiment at the storming of Secunderbad and the operations at Cawnpore, the siege and capture of Lucknow, the campaign in Oude, and other engagements. Colour-Sergeant Graham witnessed the saving of the colours by the present Commander-in-Chief at the Battle of Khodagunge. When visiting the Jacobite Exhibition some months ago Lord Roberts engaged in a reminiscent chat with the Colour-Sergeant about the incident. Colour-Sergeant Graham also took part in the Ensozai Campaign of 1863-64 under Sir John Garvock, and on completion of his term of service was the proud possessor of six medals and six clasps, having received in connection with his first campaign the Crimean medal and three clasps and the Turkish medal, while he afterwards received the Mutiny medal with two clasps, the Umbelah medal with clasp, the medal with gratuity for long service and good conduct, and the medal for meritorious service with annuity of £10. He left the regulars in 1866, but was for some time connected with the Militia, afterwards receiving an appointment in the service of the Caledonian Banking Company, where he remained for a period of 33 years, winning the esteem and admiration of his superiors in office, and indeed, all with whom he came in contact. On leaving the service some two years ago the directors of the Company expressed their appreciation of Colour-Sergeant Graham's services. The deceased is survived by two sons and five daughters, the two former being Rev. Fred Graham, Australia, and Mr. John Graham, bank agent, Burghead.

Orders by Sir Charles Napier.

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The following is an extract from the "Oakleaf."

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III.

HEAD QUARTERS,
Kurrachee, 31st August, 1844.

G. O.

It is with the greatest satisfaction that Sir Charles J. Napier has read the report of Captain MacKenzie's fight near Mobaruckpoor. This Officer has signally distinguished himself. He has taught the Hill Robbers that the dwelling of a Cavalry Officer on Outpost duty is in the saddle. The Mountain tribes have learned that they have to deal with men who can fight them in their own fashion. His exploit has been very brilliant and very honourable to Captain MacKenzie and his Regiment, and Sir Charles Napier assures them that from this time he shall feel perfect confidence in the security of the line of frontier committed to Captain MacKenzie's care. The Governor has therefore to express his thanks to Captain MacKenzie, Lieutenant Radcliff and Russildar Major Asim Beg, as well as to their companions in arms, including the detachment of Police, for their gallant conduct in this combat.

Though admiring the spirit which led Dr. Comberback so boldly to join in the charge, and in which he was wounded, Sir Charles Napier must express his hopes that in future Dr. Comberback will confine himself in battle to his proper post.

A Medical man is bound in honour and by the rules of the Service to be in the safest place to be found nearest to the scene of action, a rule from which no Commander can excuse the departure without casting a reflection upon the courage of every surgeon who does his duty.

(Sd.) C. J. NAPIER, Major Genl.,
Governor of Scinde.

HEAD QUARTERS,
Kurrachee, 17th September, 1844.

G. O.

2. Bad men must be cleared away from the good men of the 64 Regt.

Major General Hunter is therefore to discharge the 71 men of that Regiment, whose names and conduct he has reported to His Excellency the Governor, and this order shall be to the Major General a full authority. His Excellency fully expects that the 64th Regiment will now become what it ought to be, a well conducted Corps, and as Lieut.-Colonel Cahy is too ill to do duty, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will soon select another Officer for the command. In the meantime Captain Shortrud is to assume the com-

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mand of the 64th Regiment till the pleasure of His Excellency Sir Hugh Gough shall be known.

HEAD QUARTERS,
Camp Suppore, 12th November, 1844.

G. O.

The proceedings of the Court Martial which tried Private Gunn, of Captain Hamilton's Company of the 78th Highlanders, have been forwarded to me by Major General Hunter, as deserving serious notice. He calls it a very extraordinary Court, and I am of the same opinion. The Major General revised the proceedings with a very strong, and just, expression of his disapprobation. The Court returned the same finding of acquittal and the General has forwarded the proceedings to me, after ordering the prisoner to return to his duty.

My remarks on the proceeding are those which would strike any military man, *viz:* first that discredit has twice fallen upon discipline. In two instances prisoners heavily sentenced have been allowed to escape by British Soldiers. Secondly, in both cases, but more in that in which the 78th Regiment is concerned, the greatest neglect appears to have been evinced by the various officers charged with guarding them. The Brigade Major at Sukkur does not appear to have taken pains to see that a mutineer sentenced to die was in secure custody. The officer on duty and in charge of the Guards, and whose duty it was to have examined the prisoners and to have seen that every necessary order had been given to and understood by his sentries, seems to have done nothing.

The Commanding Officer of the 78th Regiment knowing his Rear Guard had charge of the State prisoner under sentence of death does not appear to have taken the proper or indeed any precautions that a Commanding Officer is bound in duty to take, when prisoners are confided to his charge. In short, from first to last there seems to have been gross neglect of duty, and an abandonment of military discipline which reflects upon every soldier whether officer or private to whose custody the prisoner was committed. So much I have to say as regards those charged with the custody of the convict. Now for the Court Martial which tried the Sentry Gunn, premising that I am convinced the acquittal of sentry Gunn could not have been unanimous. Had the prisoner pleaded the difficulty of guarding his prisoners in consequence of the neglect of his superiors I do not think he would have had a fair claim to acquittal and I confess I feel greatly disposed to bring those superiors before a General Court-Martial for I feel that my Command and myself are disgraced by the escape of so many state prisoners from Her Majesty's Regiments, but the prisoner Gunn did no such thing. He avows that he saw the prisoner escape, he gave no alarm till the convict was gone. The Sergeant-Major deposed that the orders to the sentry were to let the culprit quit the guard room "when relieved by the Native Guard," not otherwise. The Native Guard did not receive the prisoner and he escaped.

The Sergeant of the Rear Guard deposed that the sentry was not to let out the prisoner except when taken by the Native Guard. The Native Guard had not taken him and he escaped. Every answer to the Court directly proved that the sentry Gunn allowed the prisoner to escape without taking the least trouble to prevent it. But among all the remarkable proceedings of this extraordinary Court perhaps the greatest is that it does not appear to have asked what orders the Corporal of the Guard gave to the sentry when placed over the prisoner, yet on this depends the question of the man's guilt or innocence! If the Corporal ordered the sentry to let the prisoner jump in and out of the windows at his pleasure, then the sentry is guiltless and the finding of the Court was correct. But the Sergeant Major and the Sergeant of the Guard both declare that the sentry had no such orders; yet the Court do not examine either Brigade Major, Commanding Officer, Officer on duty for the day, Sergeant or Corporal, or even the sentry himself to ascertain what the sentries orders were! The Court has acquitted the prisoner in the face of all evidence and every fact, and he has returned to his duty. But if Courts-Martial act as this Court Martial acted to talk of discipline in this Army will be a farce. All guards and sentries had better be taken off at once and the whole force trust its safety to fate.

I consider that the acquittal of the sentries by the Court Martial referred to is much more injurious to discipline and more discreditable to the Army which I have the honour to command than the escape of the prisoners and this will be the opinion of every thoroughbred soldier. As to Private Gunn's character, it has nothing to do with the matter. Neither has his eighteen year's service. I do not want good natured, well behaved old women to stand sentries over condemned felons, I want hardy celert soldiers who know how to use their arms, and Courts Martial which will deal out justice to those who fail in their duty and not acquit men under pretences which are mere quibbles. I call upon the old officers of the Scinde Army to instruct those under their command that when men are charged with prisoners no quibbles raised by weak minds are to excuse the crime of letting those prisoners escape. A sentry on a guard may be overpowered; he or they may strike with the bayonet

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and the blow be parried ; they may discharge their muskets and fail in their shots, these are not legitimate excuses in letting prisoners escape, but under peculiar circumstances they may entitle the sentry on guard to mercy. This small Army is replete with noble soldiers experienced and inexperienced and for their character I am responsible, not only to my superior, but the Army itself, therefore discipline shall be rigidly maintained.

(Sd.) C. J. NAPIER, Major-Genl.,
Governor of Scinde.

HEAD QUARTERS,
Camp Packburn, 24th November, 1844.

Memorandum.—I have confirmed the acquittal because whoever placed the sentries gave them more to guard than they could guard, and this the Court has decided by the finding and sentence. The proper authorities will be so good as to take care that one or more sentries be immediately placed at the post, as nothing is so deeply injurious to discipline as to give a soldier more to do than it is possible for him to do. A sentry who sees that he cannot rigidly do his duty despairs and neglects it altogether, and defends his conduct by the pretence that it was impossible. This pretence cannot be refuted and discipline is injured.

(Sd.) C. J. NAPIER, Major-Genl.,
Governor of Scinde.

HEAD QUARTERS,
Camp Shahapoor, 19th January, 1845.

G. O.

There are two circumstances which occurred in the opening of this campaign against the robber tribes which excite admiration of the Major General, Governor, and which he thinks it right to make the subject of a separate order. The first is in the prompt and dangerous attack, for cavalry, of a village like Shahpoor in the highest degree defensible, and built for defence, and which was defended, that Jacob and his men carried it with the rapidity of lightning, and while losing men, did not injure one of the defenders, but captured them all. This is a very rare and a very glorious instance of the perfect discipline, as well as courage of the Scinde Horse, and though to men less acquainted with war it may appear trifling, yet in the mind of the Major General, Governor, it stamps both the Scinde Horse and its Commander, as first rate soldiers, prompt, resolute, obedient and human even in the momentary excitement of action against the most ferocious enemies. The Major General, Governor, feels the greatest satisfaction in thus publicly mentioning Captain Jacob and his Corps for their setting an example so honourable to themselves and to the Army. This order to be translated and to be read to every Regiment European and Native, serving in Scinde.

2. The other instance of the spirit which animated this force and of which Major General Napier feels very proud was the march made by Lieutenant Smallpage at the head of a hundred and twenty-two (?) of the Police. To the Cavalry of this body such a march was an ordinary occurrence, but one hundred and thirty (?) were infantry of the Police and these men marched through the desert forty miles in sixteen successive hours, Such exertions make the Major General feel very proud of the force he has the honour to command. The glory of soldiers is as often gained by their legs as by their arms.

(Sd.) C. J. NAPIER, Major-Genl.,
Governor of Scinde,

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

THAT he couldna get 'is baits tae come ower him.

That it took one Thousand, eleven hundred and eighty Rupees to pay out one Company.

That "A" Company has the strongest Regimental Tug-o'-War Team in the Regiment.

That he got his twa last Bulls on the edge o' th' Targit.

That he got three iggs this mornin an' he hisnie got thum yet.

That there will be six weeks manœuvres next month.

That he is going to put in a recreation to get returned to duty.

That she wasna' a European, but that she was a Highlandman.

That he heard sae much aboot the parrot he'd like to buy it.

That he lost his teeth through eating Tommy Hawks.

That the dress for lead picking at the range is red serge and white tartans.

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ERRATA.

We draw our readers attention to the following corrections we wish to make in our January number.

Page	132,	line	36	Column one	for *Members*	read	*Numbers*
,,	,,	,,	50	,,	two for *wish we*	,,	*wishes me*
,,	146,	,,	36	,,	one for *Joy Violet*	,,	*Ivy Violet*
,,	,,	,,	65	,,	one for *Wobridge*	,,	*Wolrige.*
,,	,,	,,	12	,,	two for *Halford*	,,	*Pulford.*

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Inter-Company Football League.

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At a meeting of the Sports Committee it was decided to commence the above Tournament on the 4th January, and unlike last year it is to be played under the auspices of a league. During the month several very interesting games have been witnessed, notably those "B" *v.* "C" and "E" *v.* "F" which were exceptionally good. "D" Company for the first time since the Tournament has been instituted, lead, closely followed by "C" and "G" Companies. "A" and "H" Companies hold the unenviable tail of the league ladder. The latter company not having scored a goal for the four matches played. The ex-clock holders ("F" Company) are the champion drawists of the month, having drawn three games out of five played.

The following are the accounts of the various games played during the month of January :—

LEAGUE.

"A" Company *v.* "G" Company. *4th January.*

These two teams opened the tournament; the latter winning the toss elected to play down hill, and taking advantage of a stiff breeze that was blowing carried the play to their opponents goal, forcing a corner. Houston succeeded in beating Thomson from a splendid centre by Brown who dropped the ball into the goal mouth, and "G" led at the change over by one goal to nil. On resuming play "H" Company at once worked their way into their rival's portion of the field and through a scrimmage in front of goal equalized. After this play became very even, each side adding one more point to their score, and a well contested game ended in a draw. Scores, "A," 2 goals; "G," 2 goals.

"B" Company *v.* "F" Company. *5th January.*

Both teams were representative for this contest and an exciting game was witnessed. In the first half neither teams could claim the superiority, each attacking and defending in turn, the interval being reached with a blank scoring sheet. Throughout the second period "F" pressed continuously and a quarter of an hour after the restart Erskine netted the ball with a magnificient shot. After this "B" came within an ace of scoring. Towards the finish each side pressed in turn. "B" company, if anything, having slightly the better of the closing play. Nothing further was scored, "F" Company thus winning by one goal to nil.

"C" Company *v.* "E" Company. *6th January.*

The meeting between these Companies provoked a considerable amount of interest. "E" Company throughout had decidedly the worst of matters and only once did they break through the defence of their opponents, Clarke being responsible for the point gained. On the other hand "C" played with great dash and recorded three points during the game, thus winning the match somewhat easily by three goals to one.

"D" Company *v.* "H" Company. *7th January.*

"D" Company started the game and had slightly the better of the play during the first half, but the defence on both sides prevailed, and the teams crossed over with no scoring. The second half was practically a repetition of the first. Dilly, "H" Company's custodian, however, was particularly sure in goal and several awkward shots sent in by Blake were well saved. Nothing was scored by either side and the game ended in a draw.

"A" Company *v.* "B" Company. *8th January.*

At the commencement of the game "A" Company had decidedly the better of the exchanges and "B" Company's goal was several times in eminent danger. Following a free kick "A's" centre headed over. After this "B" pressed hard, but without avail, and at the interval neither side had recorded a point. After changing sides "B" company did most of the pressing and succeeded in netting the ball twice. Towards the close of the game "A" managed to break away and score their only point. There being no further scoring the game ended in favour of "B" company. Score "B" 2 goals, "A" 1 goal.

"C" Company *v.* "D" Company. *—9th January.*

"C" set the ball in motion and immediately pressed, scoring after about eight minutes play. Midfield play ensued, "C" being most dangerous. Towards the interval they added another point to their score. Interval, "C" 2 goals, "D" nil. In the second period "D" showed to better advantage and on several occasions had hard lines, "C" company's backs being very safe. They however managed to score after some very tricky forward play, but before the close "C" scored a third goal. This placed the issue beyond doubt, the game ending "C" 3 goals, "D" 1 goal.

"E" Company *v.* "F" Company. *11th January.*

"E" having lost the toss kicked off against a slight wind, their forwards quickly assumed the aggressive and Clarke was prominent on the right Persevering in their attack the ball hovered round "F" Company's goal for some minutes till Wallace in his anxiety to relieve the pressure brought Clarke down within the penalty area. Malcolm took the kick, and succeeded in notching the first goal for "E" Company five minutes from the start. Encouraged with this early success "E" played with renewed vigour and repeatedly called upon Markey to clear, which he did very cleverly. It was not till on the close of the first half that "F" managed to break away, and Moore sending in a stinging shot completely beat McDonald, "E" Company's custodian. Half time, "E" 1 goal, "F" 1 goal. On the resumption of play "F" Company's forwards became very aggressive and "E" Company's backs and goal keeper had an anxious time of it. They were eventually driven back and "E" Company's left wing instituted some spirited attacks but could not increase their score. Towards the close play became fairly even. As nothing further was scored the game ended in a draw, one goal each.

"G" Company *v.* "H" Company. *—13th January.*

Both teams were under strength, and a hard and exciting game was fought out. In the opening stages "G" attacked incessantly and were at length rewarded by a goal, and they led at half time by a goal to nil. "H" Company tried hard to equalize the scoring but they could not penetrate the defence opposed to them, "G" Company's backs being invulnerable, and a splendid game resulted in a win for "G" by a goal to a nil.

"A" Company *v.* "C" Company. *—13th January.*

A curious game was witnessed between these two teams, "C" having the best of the exchanges throughout and in the end only winning by one goal to nil. It was Thomson, "A" Company's goal keeper, who saved them from getting badly defeated, he cleared several times magnificiently before he was beaten at close quarters by Hogg. After this play was very exciting. "C" attacked continuously but without any further success. In the second half they had even more of the game, but could not break through the admirable defence of "A" Company's backs and goal keeper and at the close of play "C" had won a bustling game by a goal to nil.

"B" Company *v.* "D" Company. *—14th January.*

In this game play was somewhat slow, "D" attacked early and, having much the better of the game, they led at the interval by three goals to nil. The second period was more evenly contested, each side making strenuous efforts to score. Hiddles notched number four for "D" and Bartholomew replied for "B," who were defeated by four goals to one.

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"E" Company *v.* "H" Company.—*15th January.*

During the opening period of this game play was of a fairly even character, neither set of forwards being able to show up against the defence and the interval arrived with no scoring. The second half proved most disastrous for "H" who were penned in their own territory during the latter part of the time, and four goals were registered against them in quick succession. From this until the finish "E" took things easy and won a very poor game by four goals to nil.

"F" Company *v.* "G" Company.—*16th January.*

Rivalry always runs strong when these two teams oppose each other and as was expected play was at a terrific pace. The high slope favoured "G" in the first half, but they failed to take advantage of the same and the teams crossed over with a clear scoring sheet. After the change of ends "F" pressed continuously but their shooting was very wild, so matters progressed until within a few minutes of time, when McAuley, from a exceedingly well placed corner, headed the ball into the net, thus snatching a victory for his team. The play on the whole was valued for a draw. Scores, "G" 1 goal, "F" nil.

"A" Company *v.* "D" Company.—*18th January.*

"D" Company had all the play in the first half, but weakness in front of goal prevented them opening their scoring account. A quarter of an hour after the interval McClay netted the ball for "D" with a magnificient shot which entirely baffled "A" company's custodian. Blake at length added a second point 10 minutes from time, and "D" Company won by two goals to nil.

"B" Company *v.* "C" Company.—*19th January.*

Close and exciting play was associated with this game. Both teams played for all they were worth, and the game became very fast and interesting. The combination on both sides was very fine, nevertheless both goals were intact at the usual interval. The second half was mainly noticeable for a prolonged attack on "B" company's goal, but their guardian was very alert and safely negotiated all the shots directed at him. Towards the close both sides pressed without advantage, and the result was a draw—no scoring.

"F" Company *v.* "B" Company.—*23rd January.*

The opening stages of the return fixture between these two teams was slightly in favour of the latter, who were in excellent form. They pressed with much energy and usually had the best of the exchanges. At the end of the first twenty minutes "F" broke away, and from a fine centre by Turnbull, Cowan scored the first goal. "B" tried hard to equalize but at half time they had failed to score. On the resumption of play "B" attacked furiously and after only a few minutes play, equalized. "E" struggled hard to get the lead but their weak forward play against the strong defence offered them, proved futile, and nothing further being recorded a fairly fast game terminated in a draw—one goal each.

"E" Company *v.* "C" Company.—*25th January.*

"E" seemed fully determined to retrieve the defeat they sustained at the hands of their opponents early in the season. The early half furnished some very fast and interesting play, but only one goal was registered; this fell to "E" Company. Nothing further transpired until about midway through the second half, when Fleming sent in a swift shot, which completely baffled the goal keeper, and equalized. Play continued very exciting and by no means all in favour of "E" as the score seemed to indicate. It was just on the close when "E" scored again, Clarke doing the needful. Thus at the close "E" won by two goals to one.

"D" Company *v.* "H" Company.—*27th January.*

In the opening half "D" had rather the better of the game, and at the interval had recorded the only point up to that time. Play was scrambling in the second period, "H" trying hard to equalize, but their efforts were unavailing, and "D" registering another goal just on time won a very poor game by two goals, to nil.

"A" Company *v.* "E" Company.—*27th January.*

"E" soon became aggressive, Thomson, however, saved smartly. Continuing the pressure "E" obtained an opening, Montgomery scoring with a splendid shot. The interval was reached without any further score. On resuming "E" immediately scored a second goal, after which "A" seemed to lose all interest in the game. From here right on to the end neither side seemed to care about exerting themselves. Ended as follows, "E" three goals, "A" one goal.

"B" Company *v.* "G" Company.—*28th January.*

"G" started with no little dash, and playing well together they soon became dangerous. They scored early in the struggle, and just before the interval annexed another point. In the second half the play was more evenly contested, both sets of forwards, however, were somewhat erratic in front of goal. At length "B" netted the ball from a scrimmage at the goal mouth. After this "G" broke away and gave their opponents a hot time of it. In the closing stages "G" scored again, thus winning rather easily by three goals to one.

"C" Company *v.* "F" Company.—*29th January.*

Great interest was taken in the first meeting of these two teams, and as was expected a very close and hard struggle ensued. The exchanges in the opening mostly were very even, and at the interval nothing had been scored by either team. After crossing over there was the same equality of play, and as neither side could pierce the defence opposed to them before the finish of the game, the match ended in a draw, not a point being recorded by either side.

"D" Company "E" Company.—*30th January.*

"D" at once pressed, and forced a corner from which they scored. Give and take play followed, and then "D" again scored. Nothing further transpiring the interval arrived with "D" leading by two goals. On resuming play "D" pressed continually and Pollock obtained a third point which put the game beyond doubt. "E" scored in the last few minutes of the game, the final record being "D" three goals, "E" one goal.

LEAGUE TABLE ENDING JANUARY, 1904.

No.	Company.	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	Goals. For.	Goals. Against.	Points.
1	'D'	6	4	1	1	12	5	9
2	'C'	6	3	2	1	8	4	8
3	'G'	4	3	1	0	7	3	7
4	'E'	6	3	1	2	12	9	7
5	'F'	5	1	3	1	3	3	5
6	'B'	6	1	2	3	5	10	4
7	'H'	4	0	1	3	0	7	1
8	'A'	5	0	1	4	4	10	1

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A good story is told of a Stirlingshire police officer and a Salvation Army Captain. "Well, how are you getting on, friend," quoth the latter. "I feel happy," responded the official in blue, "for I have just returned from darkness into light." "Praise the Lord!" sang out the Captain, and went cheerily on his way. What the officer meant was that he had just resumed day duty after having had a weary spell of night work.

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Military Nicknames,

By Kaleidoscope.

When, in pursuit of adventure or by way of escape from trouble, a man finds himself in the ranks of any one of our British regiments, about the first thing given him by his comrades is a nickname. As it is generally one more remarkable for rough wit and force than euphony or refinement, his gratitude, naturally enough, is in no way excessive, and he readily allows his modesty to prompt him to the point of declining the proffered honour.

Not that that matters much. One of Tommy Atkins' most cherished beliefs is that a man's legitimate name is not at all good enough for purposes of comradeship, and so he hastens to supply another. Private Smith, or Brown, or Green may do very well for the parade or the orderly-room; but "Cockroach," or "Tadpole," or "Butterbug" is alone suited to the atmosphere of the canteen and the barrack-room. That being so, "Cockroach," or "Tadpole," or "Butterbug," the tyro becomes on the instant, and, whether he likes it or not, continues to be such during his term of soldiering. If he is a sensible fellow, and the name is not absolutely outrageous, he will do a wise thing in falling in with the general rule and accepting his new title quietly. He will make friends all the faster and firmer for it. But if he resents rechristening, and still more if he should allow his wrath to carry him to the extreme point of invoking the aid of regimental law in the dispute, then he is, indeed, in evil case. He will rid himself of the first name, certainly, but it will go hard with the bestowers if they don't speedily confer upon him a worse; one compared to which the first was a term of complimentary endearment. A man who has successfully resisted an attempt to christen him "Bullhump" is not apt to be overjoyed by finding that he is henceforth to be known to all men as "The Spittoon." And what makes such a case all the worse is that by his action in appealing to the orderly-room he has effectually discounted his chance of being listened to a second time. Neither officers nor men have much patience with the man who is always complaining. So the gallant warrior who turned up what little nose he had at "Bullhump," carries "The Spittoon" for evermore; and the chances are that after a month or two of it he will have conscientious doubts as to whether it is not, after all, a better name than his own.

As might have been expected, physical peculiarities are by far the most efficient agents in procuring for their possessors the perfection of oddity in the way of titles, although mental and other qualities are by no means ignored. The material, appealing as it does, broadly and at once, to the general attention, is treated on the principle of first come first served, whence it is that nine out of every ten specimens of nicknames grotesquerie owe their existence to some outstanding physical feature. Startling enough some of them are, too, and occasonally so apt as to display positive genius. When a man who is about as broad as he is long is greeted as "Barrel" as soon as he shows his face in the canteen, the proceeding seems quite in accordance with the fitness of things. And when another, whose special gift lies in the direction of an ultra-healthy appetite, hears himself affectionately referred to as "A Bagsy," he discovers that he himself is the only one who thinks that the title could be improved.

To select a few recently existing in a certain regiment.

The striking title of "Shark" will be sufficiently explained when it is stated that the man bearing it had some trouble in keeping his ears out of his mouth, and "Snipe" does not seem amiss when applied to a wight who appeared to have got all the nose that was going when he was created. Nor does "Doorknob" fly at all wide of another victim in whom abnormal nasal development had taken a distinctly bulbus turn; nor "Snouty," of still another whose face was made up of an unmistakable snout—and very little else. To call the owner of a pair of enormous ears "The Windmill" was quite an inspiration, and the same may be said of "Breechloader," applied to a sergeant who could fill a bigger chair than any other man in the regiment. A boxing man, who was distinguished by a furiously freckled face, was known as "The Tanman"; and, it may be added, invariably did his best to do for his opponents what the sun had done for his visage. Another knight of the ring, who had a fearful squint, had been named "How Many," in admiring recognition of the fact that he seemed to be always looking over his shoulder for extra antagonists. "Corners" was the title freely bestowed on a gaunt corporal whose anatomical angles no padding of uniform could hide; while a brother in trouble, whose bones were at mortal feud with beef, rejoiced through life as "The Rattler"; the name being due to a weird legend that those who were near him during running drill could hear his skeleton rattling inside of him. Another of Pharaoh's lean kine was "Death-for-dinner," another "Bones," another "Famine-on-Furlough," and yet another "The Bottomless Pit"; this last emphasising the fact that the more its owner ate the less good it did him; or, at least, seemed to. As for the fat men, they were even harder hit than their opposites. "Lard," "Tallow," "Bomb," "Beef," "Suet," and "Slow Suffocation" are a few

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of the gems shining on the muster roll. Perhaps the best named of them all was "10," a fat sergeant, who, when standing on parade with his rifle at the order, certainly offered a marked resemblance to that number. If he had a rival at all, it was in the person of a bandsman, whose girth was great, and upon whom some frequenter of the regimental library had stuck the title of "The Wide, Wide World."

Of nicknames derived from sources other than those strictly personal, using the word in its physical sense, the number is large, but the reason for their existence does not lie so much on the surface. One can understand why a soft-speaking, smiling individual should be called "The Oilrag," but the why and wherefore of "Ratgut" is by no means so clear. Again, it is possible to apprehend why a generally successful gambler should be known as "The Haversack," but why a very convivial Tommy should answer to "Manky Bouffe" is hidden in impenetrable darkness. To call a fair-faced, smooth-cheeked youth of eighteen "Miss Mug" is partly intelligible, but does that afford any justification for calling the ugliest man in eight or nine hundred "The Cherub?" and yet it was done in that particular corps from which I have culled most of my samples, and so numereus were the instances of uncouth names keeping "The Cherub" company, that his was accepted as a matter of course. What the result would have been of calling the informal roll instead of the real one at muster parade is beyond the power of man to guess. For an almost certainty the quarter-master would have had a fit, with possibly the colonel and one of the majors to keep him company. "Butts," "Belts," "Buckles," "Brasses, "Snapcaps," etc., as representing matters strictly military, would have been heard shouting "Here, sir," cheek by jowl with a new exodus from Noah's Ark, as revealed by the "Bugs," "Beetles," "Bandicoots," "Badgers," "Buzzards, "Cuddies," "Donkies," "Ferrets," and so on, right through the alphabet. And then—

"Bringing up the rear of this bright host—"

to quote Byron, would have appeared a heterogeneous mob, to square whose names with the existing rules of the drawing-room would have been wholly impossible. And in dealing with this section it may be said that the most mirth-provoking and felicitous were invariable such as cannot, for sundry very powerful reasons be printed. Tommy Atkins, taking him all in all, is a splendid fellow, but it must, however reluctantly, be admitted that he cares about as little for the proprieties as he does for his country's enemies—and that is not much, as the red roll of his battles can testify.

Invading this domain, and taking whatever comes to hand, we encounter a short, thick-set worthy known as "Slopbowl," from a way he had of draining all the discarded beer-pots in the canteen on pay-nights. "Creepin' Jimmie" was an individual who united to an almost timid manner the courage and tenacity of a bull-dog. Another of the same kidney, whose little weakness lay in taking the pledge regularly every pay-day, was known as "The Weekly Washing." Another strong temperance man, whose gift of the gab was phenomenal, had earned for himself the title of "Niagara;" while a brother enthusiast in the same cause, but whose oratory was of the weakest, was known as "The Leak." Still another advocate of water, who was in the happy condition of having no ideas worth speaking about, was named "The Ditch," while by way of rear-guard came a fellow who had water on the brain, or something very like it. He could neither think nor speak of anything else, so it was no wonder that he had been named "The Bheestie Bag."

Closely akin to the temperance men were those of a religious turn. Of that class there are a number in every Regiment. And here let me say that, while sincere, consistent religious feeling is *invariably* respected in the army, anything approaching hypocrosy or Holy Willieism has about the roughest of conceivable rough times of it. Tommy is quick to note the difference between reality and sham—and just as quick to act on the knowledge. In no way is his resentment more mercilessly shown than in the absolutely fiendish ingenuity with which he showers epithets on the followers of the immortal Chadband. Take a few samples, regretting the while that the best cannot be given.

"Holy Staggers" was the respectful way in which a certain corporal wrs alluded to, and found its meaning in the fact that its wearer was aggressively religious at prayer and temperance meetings, while drinking like a fish when he thought nobody saw him. "Sin in Samples" was another sanctimonious humbug, who had fractured most of the Ten Commandments, and yet employed all his spare time in condemning iniquity. "Holy Soap" was a canting sneak, whom all the soap on earth would not have washed clean, and whom no decent woman would speak to if she could help it. "Greased Salvation" was a worthy who narrowly escaped expulsion from the regiment for stealing a florin from a comrade, and who, when brought to book, said he stole the money to buy a Bible. "Mixed Drinks" was a fellow who had changed his religion about as often as he did his shirt; and "The Holy Flea" was another who was always to be seen at the meetings of any denomination, where anything in the way of material benefit was to be gained.

The exigencies of space forbid pursuing the subject further.—H. L. I. Chronicle.

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Ninety-third Calendar for March, 1904.

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1 S. Halted Shajahanpur *en route*, Oudh jungles to Sabathu, 1859; delayed three days on account of weather.
2 M.
3 Tu. Hd.-qrs. ("E," "F," "G," and "H" Coys.) Bareilly for Chaubattia, 1899.
Lt.-Col. Halkett relinquished command, 1810, to 10th Foot. Hd.-qrs. arrived Ranikhet, 1901.
4 W. George Johnstone, Lt.-Col., 1810.
5 Th. Arrived Halifax from England after bad passage, 1838.
6 F.
7 S. Lieut.-Col. Andrew Creagh to 81st Foot, 1822. Henry Milling, Lt.-Col., 1822 (never joined). Arrived Malta, 1854.
8 S. Disembarked, Malta, 1854 (Minie Rifle issued). Head-quarters arrived Chaubattia, 1898.
9 M. Capture of Martiniere College, final attack upon Lucknow, 1858.
Arrived Rawalpindi from Umballa, 1860.
Surgeon-Major William Munro, M.D., C.B., left after 13 years in regiment to take up appointment of D.I.G. of Hospitals, 1867.
10 Tu. Lieut.-General William Wemyss, Colonel of Regiment, 1850.
11 W. Begum Kothee, Lucknow, stormed 1858; 2 Officers, 13 N.C.O's. and men killed; 2 Officers, 45 N.C.O's and men wounded.
12 Th.
13 F.
14 S.
15 S.
16 M. William Wemyss, Lt.-Col., 1815.
17 Tu.
18 W.
19 Th. Peshawar District Assault-at-Arms, 1896, won "Tug-of-war," pulling Devons, and Signalling Competition.
20 F. Peshawar District Assault-at-Arms, 1896, 2nd day; pulled "Buff" in final.
Left Shorncliffe for Dublin, 1876.
21 S. Severe street fighting in Lucknow, 1858. Inter-Coy. "Tug-of-war," "H" Coy. win shield, Ranikhet, 1900.
22 S.
M. Duncan Macgregor, Lt.-Col., 1826, *vice* Lt.-Col. Sir Chas. Gordon, to half-pay.
24 Tu. Annual inspection at Bareilly by Brigadier General Clifford, 1898.
25 W. Troopship "*Hamalaya*" with 93rd arrived, Leith from Bombay 1870.
Annual inspection (2nd day), 1898.
26 Th. Do. (3rd day), 1898. Inter-Coy. Physical Drill Competition, "C" Company wins Shield, Ranikhet, 1900.
27 F. Final capture of Lucknow, 1858.
28 S. Disembarked, Leith, 1870; head-quarters to Aberdeen, Detachments to Perth and Stirling.
29 S. 2nd Bn., 93rd, left Aberdeen for Gravesend, 1814.
Left Gibraltar for Portsmouth, 1881.
30 M. 2nd Bn., 93rd, Aberdeen for Gravesend, 1814.
31 Tu.

Promotions.

To be Colour-Sergeant:—No. 4644, Sergeant D. Ritchie, "G," Company dated 14th January, 1904.
To be Sergeants:—No. 4058, Lance Sergeant J. Buchanan, "F" Company, dated 27th December, 1903.
No. 4878, Lance Sergeant J. McLaughlan, "G" Company, dated 14th January, 1904.
To be Corporal:—No. 3927, Lance Corporal W. Walker, "A" Company, dated 14th January, 1904.

Pay of Rank.

To be paid Lance Sergeant:—No. 7571, Lance Sergeant J. Balfour, "A" Company, dated 27th December, 1903.
To be paid Lance Corporals:—No. 7112, Lance Corporal S. McVea, "C" Company, dated 8th January, 1904. No. 7757, Lance Corporal W. Bell, "A" Company, dated 14th January, 1904.

Appointments.

To be Pay Sergeant of "B" Company:—No. 5864, Sergeant J. Brash, "C" Company, dated 1st January, 1904.
To be Section Sergeant, Boer Prisoners' Camp, Ahmednagar:—No. 4069, Sergeant J. Edgar, "H" Company, dated 27th December, 1903.
To be Band Sergeant:—No. 4878, Sergeant J. McLaughlan, "G" Company, dated 14th January, 1904.
To be Canteen Sergeant:—No. 2981, Sergeant W. Scott, "D" Company, dated 1st January, 1904.
To be Provisional Lance Corporal while employed in the A. A. G.'s Office:—No. 5323, Private H. Creed, "G" Company, dated 26th January, 1904.
To be Bandsmen:—No. 9183, Boy McKilligan, "H" Company, dated 14th January, 1904. No. 9321, Private R. Brown, "B" Company, dated 29th January, 1904.
To be Acting Bandsmen:—No. 6418, Private J. McKenzie, and No. 5811, Private M. McGinley "E" Company, dated 9th January, 1904. No. 6664, Dr. E. Gunn, "E" Company, dated 19th January, 1904. No. 7760, Private C. McKim, "C" Company, dated 29th January, 1904.
To be Drummer:—No. 7840, Private D. McIntosh, "E" Company, dated 19th January, 1904, No, 7811, Private, G. Scott, "C" Company, dated 4th January, 1904.
To be Regimental Signaller:—No. 5367 Private W. Glen, "E" Company, dated 18th December, 1903.
To be Pioneers:—No. 7729, Private Duncan, "A" Company. No. 7316, Private J. McLelland, "C" Company. No. 8090, Private W. Green, "E" Company. No. 6174, Private J. Louden, "F" Company. Private W. Powell, "E" Company.

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GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

"B" Company.

At 3d per diem :—

No. 4369 Bandsman J. Dunlop.

At 2d per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 8042 Private C. Cahill.

"B" Company.

No. 9321 Private R. Brown.

"D" Company.

No. 6413, Pte. R. Watson. | No. 5129, Pte. H. A. McLean.

"H" Company.

No. 5454, Pte. D. Ritchie. | No. 4757, Pte. R. Cullen.
,, 5429, ,, D. Turnbull. | ,, 6418, ,, J. McKenzie.

No. 6424, Private J. Cowan.

"G" Company.

No. 5994, Private A. Rice.

"H" Company.

No. 6392, Pte. J. Rarity. | No. 4593, Pte. W. Livingston.

At 1d. per diem.

"A" Company.

No. 7566, Pte. J. Jardine | No. 6885, Pte. W. McPhee.
,, 6839, ,, D. Cameron | ,, 5139, ,, J. Craigen.

No. 7373, Private T. May.

"C" Company

No. 7190, Pte. A. Findlay. | No. 7061, Pte. J. McIlveen.

"D" Company.

No. 7021, Private J. Wardrope.

"E" Company.

No. 6473, Private J. Duncan.

"F" Company.

No. 8230, Pte. D. McFee. | No. 8237, Pte. C. Mark.
,, 4525, ,, R. Scott. | ,, 6930, ,, R. Paterson

"G" Company.

No. 6938, Private W. Forson.

"H" Company.

No. 5243, Pte. H. Lawrie. | No. 8191, Pte. J. Lawrie.
,, 5017, ,, J. Scott. | ,, 6181, ,, J. Smith.
,, 6104, ,, W. Wilson. | ,, 6842, ,, D. McKay.

CERTIFICATES.

The undermentioned Non-Commissioned Officers have been granted certificates of proficiency in transport duties :—

No. 5490, Corporal S. Smith, "H" Company.
,, 6152, ,, A. Watt, "B" ,,
,, 5694, Lce.-Corpl. J. Blake "D" ,,
,, 5170, ,, W. Jamieson, "A" Company.
,, 7950, ,, J. Hutchinson, "D" ,,
,, 5944, Private D. Hally, "H" ,,

Granted 1st Class Certificates of Education, dated 29th September, 1903 :—

No. 7192, Lance Corporal C. Campbell, "B" Company.
,, 6486, Private F. Noble, "G" Company.
,, 5789, ,, C. Hearn, (Late "F" Company, and sent to England for transfer to Army reserve).

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years service :—

No. 4531, Lance Corporal C. Armour, "A" Coy.
,, 4571, ,, J. Hiddles, "D" ,,
,, 4543, ,, D. Finlayson, "D" ,,

INTER-COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 4878, Band-Sgt. J. McLaughlan, "G" to "E" Coy.
,, 6703, Private W. Houston, "G" to "D" Coy.
,, 7811, Drummer G. Scott, "C" to "G" Coy.

CHANGE OF NAME.

No. 7217, Private W. Storment, "E" Company has been permited to change his name to "William Stormonth" No. 4812, Pte. J. McDonald, "E" Company has been permitted to change his name to "Peter Mudie." No. 8185 Pte. J. Flynn, "F" Company has been permitted to change his name to "John McWilliams."

TAKEN ON STRENGTH.

Transferred from the 1st Royal Sussex Regiment, dated January, 1904, posted to "G" Company :—

Private William Powell.

TROOPING CHANGES.

Embarked for England on the H. T. "Soudan" on the 23rd December, 1903 :—

Transfer to Army Reserve :—

No. 5597 Private A. Kerr, "D" Company.
,, 5632 ,, M. Spelman, ,, ,,
,, 5630 ,, A. Lorimer, ,, ,,
,, 5638 ,, J. Clarke "G" ,,
,, 5637 ,, A. Foster "A" ,,
,, 5612 ,, C. McCulloch "G" ,,
,, 5640 ,, C. Maclay "D" ,,
,, 5648 ,, J. McEwan "A" ,,
,, 5658 ,, A. Leitch "D" ,,
No. 5668 Private A. Yates "A" Company.
,, 5650 ,, J. Campbell "D" ,,
,, 5634 ,, F. Logan "H" ,,
,, 5631 ,, D. Aird "E" ,,
,, 5662 ,, T. Jones "A" ,,
,, 5741 ,, A. Saunders "F" ,,
,, 5669 ,, T. Chilton "G" ,,
,, 5672 ,, R. Kilpatrick "D" ,,
,, 5680 ,, J. Getchell "A" ,,
,, 5681 ,, J. Monteith "E" ,,
,, 5683 ,, H. Cairns "D" ,,
,, 5700 ,, F. Mack "A" ,,

Time-Expired, twelve years.

No. 5294 Corporal J. Stevenson "D" ,,
,, 4345 Private J. McLean "B" ,,
,, 4366 ,, A. Graham "E" ,,
,, 7515 ,, S. Wilson "C" ,,

Discharged :—No. 6262, Private G. Gilfillan, "G" Company.

To Home Establishment :—

No. 1778, Colour-Sergeant T. A. Swan, "G" Company.
,, 5230, Sergeant D. Yardley, "D" ,,

Embarked for England on the H. T. "Plassey," on the 1st January, 1904 :—

Transfer to Army Reserve :—

No. 5697 Private P. McDonald "G" Company.
,, 5784 ,, W. Chapman "E" ,,
,, 5784 ,, W. Kelly "F" ,,
,, 5699 ,, R. Foster "C" ,,
,, 5725 ,, W. Brown "E" ,,
,, 5724 ,, J. Lamb "E" ,,
,, 5728 ,, R. Anderson "E" ,,
,, 5720 ,, G. Barnett "E" ,,
No. 5732 Private C. Ross "E" Company.
,, 5735 ,, T. Young "E" ,,
,, 5734 ,, A. Pilmer "A" ,,
,, 5745 ,, J. Burns "D" ,,
,, 5750 ,, D. Raphael "F" ,,
,, 5751 ,, J. Marquis "E" ,,
,, 5593 ,, J. Balfour "D" ,,

Embarked on the Troopship "Sicilia," on the 8th January, 1904 :—

Transfer to Army Reserve :

No. 5707 Private B. Gordon "B" Company.
,, 5752 ,, J. Sutherland "F" ,,
,, 5765 ,, J. Mullens "F" ,,
,, 5770 ,, J. Cullen "F" ,,
,, 5740 ,, T. Engelby "E" ,,
,, 5699 ,, P. Brisland "G" ,,
,, 5760 ,, W. Riddoch "A" ,,
,, 5777 ,, J. Brown "F" ,,
,, 1279 ,, R. Dyer "F" ,,
,, 5991 ,, G. Lees "G" ,,
,, 5795 ,, T. McGowan "F" ,,
,, 5800 ,, J. Gracie "F" ,,
,, 5451 ,, D. Comrie "D" ,,
,, 5789 ,, C. Hearn "F" ,,
,, 5833 ,, J. Gallaghar "F" ,,
,, 5834 ,, J. McMillan "G" ,,

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No. 5835	Private L. Campbell	"F"	Company.
,, 5828	,, D. Sinclair	"G"	,,
,, 5863	,, D. Gallaghar	"E"	,,
,, 5852	,, G. T. Sewell	"G"	,,
,, 6028	,, A. Hamilton	"F"	,,
,, 5360	,, R. Stewart	"H"	,,
,, 5866	,, W. Wilson	"G"	,,
,, 5870	,, D. Pullar	"G"	,,
,, 5872	,, T. Campbell	"E"	,,
,, 5593	,, P. Flynn	"A"	,,

TAKEN ON STRENGTH OF MARRIED ESTABLISHMENT.

Winifred, wife of No. 5853, Private J. Brown, "C" Coy., dated 8th January, 1904.

PRIZE STATEMENT OF "A" COMPANY, (Musketry).

Best shots of Coporals and Privates in Part I., Table B:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
No. 5734	Private A. Pilmer	12	0	0
,, 4955	,, D. Hunter	10	0	0
,, 5685	Lance Corporal F. Morrison	8	0	0
,, 5221	Private J. Drain	8	0	0
,, 7567	,, R. Kean	5	0	0
,, 5333	,, P. Hay	4	0	0
,, 7685	,, W. McPhee	4	0	0
,, 4534	,, C. Smith	2	0	0
,, 4531	Lance Corporal C. Amour	1	13	6

Best shot of Sergeants:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
No. 5927	Sergeant D. W. Stobie	8	7	0

Best shots Corporals and Privates in aggregate of Nos. 10, 11, 13 and 13, (Snap Shooting) Part I., Table B:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
No. 5685	Lance Corporal F. Morrison	5	10	0
,, 4955	Private D. Hunter	4	10	0
,, 5221	,, J. Drain	5	10	0

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in aggregate of Nos. 14, 15, and 16. Part II., Table B. (Snap Shooting):—

		Rs.	A.	P.
No. 4955	Private D. Hunter	5	0	0
,, 5685	Lance Corporal F. Morrison	5	0	0
,, 6936	Private J. Wilson	5	0	0
,, 8078	,, T. Campbell	3	12	0
,, 5189	,, H. Allan	3	12	0
,, 4627	,, H. Walker	3	12	0
,, 4531	Lance Corporal C. Armour	3	12	0
,, 5139	Private J. Craigen	3	12	0

Best Section in No. 17 Practice, Part II., Table B. (Skirmishing):—

		Rs,	A.	P.
No. 6098	Corporal T. Young	1	8	7
,, 7764	,, E. Harvey	1	8	7
,, 5685	Lance Corporal F. Morrison	1	8	7
,, 7071	Private J. Connelly	1	8	7
,, 7754	,, A. McLeish	1	8	7
,, 7938	,, J. Stewart	1	8	7
,, 6926	,, J. Thomson	1	8	7
,, 5734	,, A. Pilmer	1	8	6
,, 4933	,, J. Lilly	1	8	6
,, 4534	,, C. Smith	1	8	6
,, 4627	,, H. Walker	1	8	6

Best shot of Corporals and Privates in No. 18 Practice, Part II., Table B:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
No. 7071	Private J. Connelly	4	3	6

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in No. 19 Practice Part II., Table B:—

		Rs.	A,	P.
No. 7221	Private M. Clanahan	5	0	0
,, 5573	,, F. May	3	0	0
,, 5225	Lance Corporal W. Hastie	3	0	0
,, 7754	Private A. McLeish	2	6	0
,, 4933	,, J. Lilly	1	12	0
,, 4000	Lance Corporal E. McConnell ...	1	12	0

Rs. A. P.

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in the aggregate of Nos. 2, 3, 7 and 9 Practices (Time Practice.) Selected by Company Officers:—

No. 5022	Lance Corporal W. McLachlan ...	5	8	0
,, 4534	Private C. Smith...	4	6	0
,, 7507	,, R. Kean	3	0	0
,, 5225	Lance Corporal W. Hastie	2	0	0
,, 7768	Private J. McMillan	2	0	0

Domestic Occurrences.

BIRTH.

Durnan—At Poona, on the 20th November 1903, the wife of Color-Sergeant J. Durnan, "D" Company, of a daughter, Anne Winifred.

MARRIAGE.

At the Shepherd's Hall, 25, Bath Street, Glasgow, on 1st January, 1904, by the Rev. J. Burnett, St. David's U. P. Church, Sergeant H. U. Bracken, 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, to Catherine, eldest daughter of D. Campbell, 264, Parliamentary Road, Glasgow.

DEATH.

Wynne.—At Calcutta, on 5th January, 1904, No. 8186, Private P. Wynne, "D" Company.

—o—

Subscriptions.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	a.
Lieutenant Colonel C. Grant	3	0
Major McKerrell	15	0
Lieutenant Latham	6	0
J. B. McPherson	15	0
Captain Tweedie	6	0

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following papers:—

"The Queen's Own Gazette"	for December.
"St. George's Gazette"	,, ,,
"The Indian Volunteer Record and Military News"	,, January.
"The Suffolk Gazette"	,, ,,
"The Die-hards Doings"	,, ,,
"The Dragon"	,, ,,
"The Globe and Laurel"	,, ,,
"The A. S. C. Journal"	,, ,,
"The Oakleaf"	,, ,,
"The Green Howard's Gazette"	,, ,,
"The Lillywhite Gazette"	,, ,,
"The China Dragon"	,, ,,
"The Military Mail"	Weekly.
"The Aldershot News"	,,
"The Stirling Sentinel"	,,
"The Rothesay Express"	,,
"The Oban Times"	,,

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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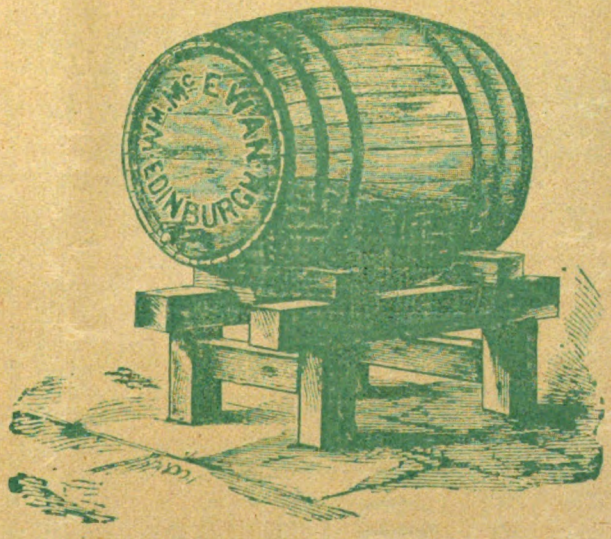

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MARCH 1904

XCIII

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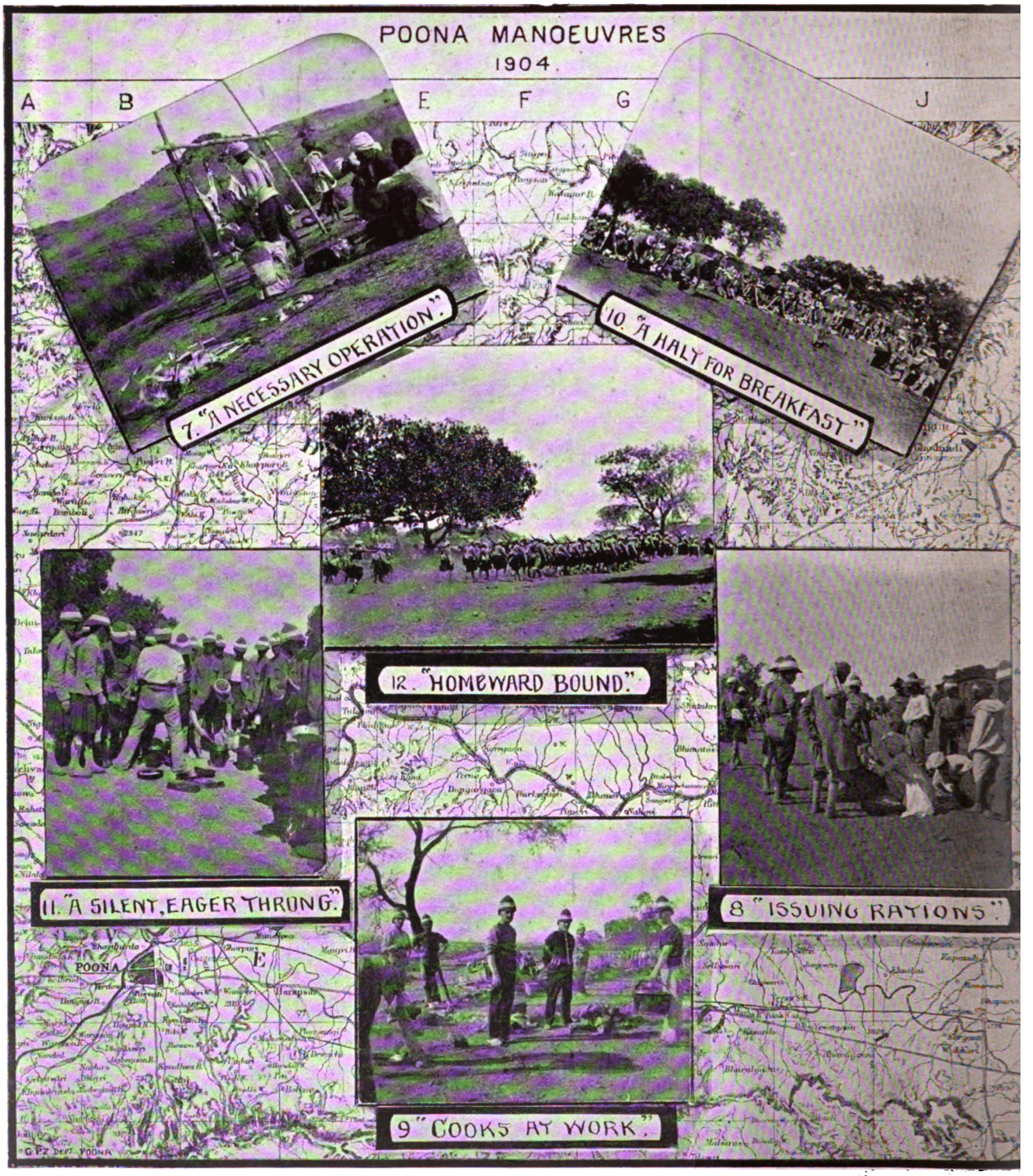

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THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Battalion (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 11—Vol. IX.] POONA—MARCH, 1904. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

FEBRUARY has not been a very eventful month at headquarters. With the exception of the weeks manœuvres at the beginning of the month, and the Commander-in-Chief's inspection on the 20th, there has been little to divert our minds and news is therefore scarce. An account of the manœuvres appears elsewhere in our columns.

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The weather at the beginning of the month, especially during the manœuvres was delightful, but latterly a forewarning of the hot weather has been perceptible, punkhas are now in full swing, (where they exist) and serge clothing has been discarded for white.

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Lord Kitchener's inspection of the troops in the Station was held on Saturday the 20th. At 9 a.m. the Battalion, full strength, formed up with the remainder of the Division on the Race Course, and at 9-30 a.m. the Commander in Chief with his staff arrived on the ground. The garrisons of Poona and Kirkee were drawn up together, and numbered in all 106 officers, 4,380 men, 3,000 horses, 24 field guns, and four maxims, formed up as follows :—Two lines facing east—Infantry Brigade in first line. One battery R.F.A. was at first formed up on the right of the line to fire the General Salute, after which it resumed its place. First line—1st Infantry Brigade, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Onslow, R.E.: 2nd Battalion East Lancashire Regiment, 87th Punjabis, 94th Infantry. 2nd Infantry Brigade, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Carey, East Lancashire Regiment: 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 120th Infantry. Second Line—under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Carter, Commanding R.F.A.: 33rd Light Cavalry, Royal Field Artillery, 3rd Sappers and Miners. Bands were massed in rear of the centre of the first line.

After the general salute His Excellency rode up and down the ranks. This was immediately followed by all the troops present marching past, the Infantry in column of double companies. The parade was then concluded by the 33rd Light Cavalry charging past the saluting base. Directly after the parade, the Commander in Chief drove round the Wanowrie Lines, and paid a visit to the new bungalow which has been recently occupied by "G" Coy., who moved there from their temporary quarters under canvas.

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The Pay and command of "H" Coy. has once more changed hands, being taken over by Major Vallancey, D.S.O., who joined the Battalion on 27th inst., after a period of nearly five years on the staff, four of which were spent in South Africa, where, in addition to many heavy engagements, he underwent the siege of Ladysmith.

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On the 15th inst. the casuals commenced their Musketry course under 2nd Lieutenant Cheape; and on the 29th inst. Lord George Dundas and two men per company were struck off duty for a Machine Gun course, which is likely to last a month

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2nd Lieut. H. B. Hartley, with a draft of one sergeant and thirty-five men from the 1st Battalion arrived at Head-quarters on the 28th inst. and was posted to "B" Coy., but has been temporarily attached to "D" Coy., pending the former's return from detachment at Kirkee, where rumour has it that they still are, though we have neither seen nor heard anything of them for some time.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

No sooner do some fresh faces arrive than we lose some of our old friends, this time in the person of Colour Sergeant Durnan, who left us on the 24th inst. to take up the appointment of (officiating) Quarter Master Sergeant at Jhizree Sanitarium. We wish him every success in his new billet.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

All the companies are now to be seen hard at work training their teams and individual members to represent them in the best way possible at the Regimental Games, which we hear it rumoured are to take place about the end of March. From the wild yells mingled with the strains of the pipes which reach our ears on passing through barracks in the evening, we conclude that the Company Reel sets are in full swing, and we hope to see every company bring at least two sets to the post.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

Our well known Cycle Orderly, Private Rarity of "H" Company, journeyed to Bombay about the end of the month, and carried away first prize in the three mile handicap at the K. and S. Cycle Company's Sports, for which he is the proud possessor of a silver cup. We offer him our congratulations and wish him always good speed on his wheels.

∴ ∴ ∴

It is also our pleasant duty to congratulate Pipers W. Wright "G" Company, and R. Kean "A" Coy. on their success, while on furlough at Calcutta, in the Bengal Presidency Amateur Athletic Association Sports. The former distinguished himself by obtaining second place in the Three Mile British Army Bicycle championship, for which he received a money prize of Rs. 75. The latter came in third in the six hundred yards flat race, winning a Bronze Medal and Rs. 40 in cash.

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The following letter was received by Major Mackenzie, M.V.O., who very kindly forwarded it to us for publication; any news of, or from our fine old veterans always being of the greatest interest.

SIR,—It is with pleasure that I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letters of November 7, 1903, and January 1, 1904; also copies of the "Thin Red Line" and photograph of your gallant company. Permit me to specially thank you for your kindness in sending the latter, which I have got framed and placed alongside my copy of Gibb's picture. If an old soldier may say so, your photograph shows an exceptionally, fine lot of men, in no way behind those who tried to uphold the colours of the 93rd in bygone days.

I regret I did not see my way to attend the Balaklava dinner in October, and have therefore read with all the greater interest Col.-Sergeant Hutton's account in the present number of the "Thin Yin." Since the anniversary one of my old comrades of the "Thin Red Line," another of the now well nigh imperceptible "Line," has passed away. I refer to Col.-Sergeant John Graham of Inverness.—Yours Faithfully

(Sd.) JOHN WATSON.

Balaklava Cottage,
Cambusbarron, Stirling.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

We are presenting with this number a supplement of photographs taken over the monœuvre country and kindly presented by Sergeant Major Ditcham and Private Elder, to whom we offer our best thanks.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

The Editor takes this opportunity of informing our readers that our next number will close the year for the "Thin Red Line," and as the number of copies reserved for binding is only limited, we hope that any subscriber who desires a bound volume of the paper will let the Editor know as soon as possible. We will be pleased to bind private copies at the low rate of one rupee per volume

:o:

A Week's Buck Shooting.

There are few better ways of spending a week's leave from Poona than of going several score miles down the line after buck.

In January last we went off to a high plateau some eighty miles away, where the air was deliciously cool and bracing, and only in the middle of the day did the sun remind us that we were in India.

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The tobacco field in which our shikari had pitched our camp was well shaded, and the old woman who owned the field delighted to see us. The tithe paid by the sahib for damages done by his camp, no doubt far exceeded the revenue her undamaged tobacco would bring.

The country around is composed of miles and miles of undulating plains, with here and there a scrap of shady jungle and deep, rocky nullahs, but mostly it is all open *midân*, and the buck are very wary. It was not the first time they had shown sport to the sahibs. The old buck keeps his does as out-posts all round him, and the does know perfectly well that no gentleman would shoot her, and that her duty is to protect and keep cave for her lord and master ; so thoroughly, too, does she do her duty that it is very rarely possible to get within an easy shot of these buck. It is generally, only the solitary outcasts, who have no ladies looking after them, that are ultimately hung up on one's bungalow walls.

Usually, we only went out at dawn, returning for a late breakfast, and then started off again when the sun was well down in the west. But on two occasions we spent the entire day trekking after them ; both times, however, with no result (except a gharri full of empty Soda water bottles) until late in the evening, when the buck were lying down to digest their day's food.

On one such occasion we had a very pretty stalk, down a deep nullah, and then up through a millet field, which brought us up to within thirty yards of where two fine buck were reposing. They were lovely, with the dying sunlight glistening on them. The smaller of the two fell stone dead, but the other was miles away unharmed in a very few minutes.

It was on the same evening, jolting campwards in our bil gharri, that the Mahratta driver excitedly whispered, "Te, Te, Te!" which has apparently the same meaning as Urdu—*Dekho !* or English : Look, See ! We did look, and trotting quietly across the track, not twenty yards away, was a fine old wolf. As we thought the day's sport was over, the rifles had previously been unloaded, and the coolies were carrying them, but before the wolf had got eighty yards he had fallen. And a very fine old fellow he was. I think we prized him more than the five black buck we brought back with us, though one of them is well worth keeping. He has a very black skin, and his horns measure twenty one and a half inches. We missed one perfectly magnificient old fellow, which has caused us endless regrets. His horns must have measured quite twenty-four inches, but his years had taught him wisdom. I should say he is still roaming the *midân* for other sahibs to get hot and angry over, if there are any who wish to go and find him.

PRO REGE.

Wapinshaw.

———:o:———

A Wapinshaw, open to all members of the Regimental Shooting Club, was held on Thursday and Friday the 17th and 18th inst. A great many availed themselves of this opportunity of a shoot. The ranges here, however, are very uncertain, the winds become very conflicting and troublesome as the distances lengthen.

The scores, which were not phenomenal, a high wind blowing during the firing, will not be recorded here in detail.

MATCHES.

Match 1. 200 Yards. Position, any Military. Open to Corporals, Lce. Corporals, and Privates. Prizes, Rs. 15, 10, 7, 5, 5, 5, 3.

„ 2. 500 Yards. Position, any Military. Open to Corporals, Lce. Corporals, and Privates. Prizes, as for Match 1.

„ 3. 600 Yards. Position, any Military. Open to Corporals, Lce. Corporals, and Privates. Prizes, as for Match 1.

„ 4. Falling Plate Competition. One minute allowed from the Command "Commence." Distance, 400 Yards. Position, any Military. Prizes, Rs. 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 3.

„ 5. As for Matches 1, 2, and 3, open to Members of Sergeants' Mess. Prizes, Rs. 15, and 8, for each distance, aggregate Prizes, Rs. 20, 15, 10.

„ 6. Aggregate of Matches 1, 2, 3. Prizes, Rs. 15, 10, 7, 5, 3.

„ 7. Officers, as for Matches 1, 2, and 3. Entrance Fee, Rs. 5. Ammunition to be paid for. Prizes, Three best Aggregates, from entrance money.

The best Ten Aggregates in the Corporals and Privates matches have to fire at a future date for a prize of £2 given by the Highland Society of London, at a target, either moving or vanishing, at 800 yards, as arranged by the Shooting Club Committee. No entrance fee.

At each distance there was a Pool Target. The money for bull's eyes was paid at the close of each day's shoot (less 10 per cent for expenses).

Regulation sights only were used, and the marking was Bisley.

LIST OF WINNERS.

MATCH I. 200 YARDS.

1st	No. 4295	Private	J. Dolen	"B" Coy	Score	32
2nd	„ 9371	„	R. Brown	"B" „	„	32
3rd	„ 4571	Lce. Cpl.	J. Hiddles	"D" „	„	32
4th	„ 4635	Private	G. Clarkson	"E" „	„	31
5th	„ 4531	Lce. Cpl.	C. Armour	"A" „	„	31
6th	„ 4311	„	A. Wight	"C" „	„	31
7th	„ 4682	„	A. Gray	"H" „	„	30

ENTRIES —164.

Three Scores of 30 counted out.

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MATCH II. 500 Yards.

1st	No. 4876	Drumr.	W. Malcolm	"F" Coy.	Score 31
2nd	,, 4682	Lce. Cpl.	A. Gray	"H" ,,	,, 30
3rd	,, 5164	,,	C. Lewington	"E" ,,	,, 29
4th	,, 5373	Private.	A. May	"A" ,,	,, 29
5th	,, 4627	,,	H. Walker	"A" ,,	,, 29
6th	,, 5198	,,	G. Marshall	"D" ,,	,, 29
7th	,, 6980	,,	A. Grant	"F" ,,	,, 28

ENTRIES—161.

Five Scores of 28 counted out.

MATCH III. 600 YARDS.

1st	No. 7433	Corporal	G. Polson	"H" Coy.	Score 29
2nd	,, 5297	Lce. Cpl.	W. Kirkland	"G" ,,	,, 28
3rd	,, 9371	Private	R. Brown	"B" ,,	,, 26
4th	,, 6200	,,	J. Lumsden	"F" ,,	,, 26
5th	,, 7768	,,	Maxwell	"D" ,,	,, 26
6th	,, 4635	,,	G. Clarkson	"E" ,,	,, 25
7th	,, 6120	,,	J. Munro	"F" ,,	,, 25

ENTRIES—122.

MATCH IV. FALLING PLATE, 400 YARDS.

1st No. 4534 Pte. C. Smith "A" Coy. Score, 4 plates

2nd ,, 6428 ,, R. Carlyle "C" Coy. Score, 3 } divided.
3rd ,, 6142 ,, W. Rastall "D" Coy. Score, 3 }

4th, 5th and 6th Prizes divided between 15 N.C.Os. and men with 2 plates each.

ENTRIES—64.

MATCH V. 200 YARDS.

1st Sergeant	J. Inglis	"E" Company.	Score 31
2nd Cr. Sergeant	G. Arnott	"F" ,,	,, 31

ENTRIES—34.

500 YARDS.

1st Cr. Sergeant	G. Arnott	"F" Company.	Score 30
2nd Sergeant	R. Glass	"A" ,,	,, 29

ENTRIES—35.

600 YARDS.

1st Lce. Sergeant	A. McDonald	"E" Coy.	Score 25
2nd Sergeant	J. Sim	"D" ,,	,, 25

ENTRIES—28.

Aggregate Prizes—1st Cr. Sergeant G. Arnott Score 83
2nd Lce. Segt. A. McDonald Score 81
3rd Sergeant D. Stobie Score 67

Cr. Segt. G. Arnott, with the highest aggregate, also wins the Gilchrist Cup for the year.

MATCH VI. AGGREGATE PRIZES.

1st	No. 4635	Private	G. Clarkson	"E" Coy.	Score 84
2nd	,, 4311	Lce. Cpl.	A. Wight	"C" ,,	,, 83
3rd	,, 4682	,,	A. Gray	"H" ,,	,, 83
4th	,, 7867	Private	G. Maxwell	"D" ,,	,, 82
5th	,, 4595	,,	J. Dolan	"B" ,,	,, 82

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Officers' and Sergeants' Match.

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During the afternoon of the second day, Friday, the officers and sergeants took the opportunity of having a shoot. The officers were the challengers, and were "At Home," but were defeated by thirty-one points. The wind was still shifty, and affected the shooting considerably at the longer distance. The best scores on the sergeants' side were made by Colour-Sergeant Ewan and Sergeant Scott; the former made 62 and the latter 59.

The following are the Scores made by the respective teams:—

OFFICERS.	200 yds.	500 yds.	Totals.
2nd Lieutenant A. E. Kennedy	28	28	56
Captain Hyslop	30	24	54
Lieutenant Langton	27	26	53
2nd Lieutenant Maclaine	28	25	53
,, Cheape	23	29	52
Lt.-Colonel Paterson	21	27	48
Captain Darroch	25	22	47
Captain Marshall	27	18	45
Lieutenant Forbes	19	24	43
Captain Elphinston	27	16	43
Total	255	239	494

SERGEANTS.	200 yds.	500 yds.	Totals.
Colour-Sergeant Ewan	30	32	62
Sergeant Scott	30	29	59
Sergeant Inglis	28	29	57
Sergeant Crawford	28	27	55
Pipe Major Lynch	28	24	52
Colour-Sergeant Arnott	28	24	52
Sergeant Ogg	30	22	52
Colour-Sergeant Ritchie	23	27	50
Sergeant White	26	23	49
Lance-Sergeant Fraser	22	15	37
Total	273	252	525

The Subalterns' Point to Point.

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The Point to Point Race in which our Subaltern Officers compete for a cup which is annually given by the Commanding Officer, was successfully brought off for this year on February 20th. The course, as flagged out, was about 3¼ miles across open country, providing an interesting assortment of good galloping ground, loose stones, ploughed fields, little and big nullahs, a ditch or two, and a few stone walls.

By 4.45 p.m. under a tope of trees near Khondwa Khed, 1½ miles from the town, all the rank, beauty and fashion of Poona were assembled by invitation of Lieut. Colonel and Mrs. Stanley Paterson, who, with thoughtful hospitality, saw that all had their inner man or woman amply sustained by delicacies, liquid and solid, whilst the Band and Pipers discoursed sweet music. The dominant power in India was well represented on the ground by no less han ten Generals,

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including Lord Kitchener, Lieut. General Sir A. Hunter, Major General Richardson, Sir O'Moore, Creagh, and Clements.

All subalterns present with the regiment (except one who was having Boer bullets extracted, and another whose steed could not start owing to want of petrol) faced the starter, who got the 12 away without any trouble. Although at one point 9 riders were enticed off the line by a native mysteriously waving a red flag, the pace was good throughout, all succeeded in finishing the course without accident to man or pony. The winner was Lieut. and Adjutant J. Kennedy, closely followed by Lieut. O. C. Herbert, on one of 2nd Lieut. Falconer-Stewart's ponies, thus making the second time these energetic officers have been 1st and 2nd in this contest. 2nd Lieut. R. D. Falconer-Stewart was a good third, but as the writer then adjourned to drink the Colonel's health he cannot say how the remainder came in, though it is rumoured that they were all in a bunch, and made a good finish.

After this, a race open to all officers' horses, height 14 : 1 and over, for a cup given by our Majors and Captains, was run over the same course, by five bold riders including some of the C.-in-C.'s Staff—and five minutes later 10 ponies height under 14 : 1 were started in a similar race for a cup given by our Subalterns. The pace in both races was pretty hot; the winner of the first was Major F. M. Edwardes, 33rd Cavalry, who oddly enough also won the second cup with his grey pony, ably ridden by his brother officer, Major Wogan Browne. Second and third for the first cup were Lieut. Evans Gwynne, R.F.A., and Lieut. Maxwell, R.E., and for the second Major Olivier, R.F.A., and Lieut. Passey, 33rd Cavalry.

A pleasant afternoon was thus profitably spent, the only casualties being one pony lamed, one knee badly bruised by a rider whose pony selected the rockiest spot in a dry nullah on which to deposit his master, and a few hats blown off on the course.

Lord Kitchener, though still very lame was able to walk about a little, and see the start and finish of each race.

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The anxious rifleman was about to begin shooting at 1000 yards one very dull day, and asked the marker, through the telephone, "Are you all ready?" The marker replied—"All right, sir, in a minute," but unluckily the rifleman only heard the first part of the sentence. He fired, and on looking through the telescope he was horrified to see the marker, with a ghastly face, staggering away towards the shelter. He was greatly alarmed, and cried through the telephone—"What has happened? Are you badly hurt?" "No, I am not hurt," came the reply, "but I had a bucket of whitewash between my legs, and you set that blessed bullet into it, and splashed it all up in my face."

Home and Depot Notes.

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In replying for "The Imperial Forces" at the Glasgow Stirlingshire and Sons of the Rock Society's dinner, Col. Hunt, commanding the 91st Regimental District, remarked that the county had every reason to be proud of the regiment now associated with it, the A. and S. Highlanders. (Applause). Both battalions had distinguished themselves in all parts of the world, and the first battalion more recently in South Africa. He was glad to say that recruiting was proceeding satisfactorily over the district, and they were getting all the recruits required at present. He thought that the system lately introduced by Mr. Brodrick was working remarkably well, and no longer could it be said that the Army was a refuge for bad characters and men known to the police, and he could not think of any system more likely to raise the prestige of the Army.

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We understand that a movement has been started with the object of erecting at Stirling Castle a suitable memorial to the officers and men of the First Battalion who fell in battle or died of disease in South Africa during the late war. It has not been decided what form the memorial will take, but there seems to be a feeling that it should be of a substantial character, and that it should be placed on the Esplanade. A better site could not be selected.

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For some time past it has been felt in military circles that the Vale of Menteith, as compared with other districts, scarcely furnished its proper quota of men for the army. There was no apparent reason for such a state of matters, the inhabitants of Menteith being as patriotic supporters of the empire as any to be found in the country. Be that as it may, an effort is now to be made to obtain recruits from that district, which forms part of the territory of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Recruiting Sergeants Moore and Dowie, from Stirling Castle, have been ordered to take up their quarters in the vale for a time. Sergeant Moore, who is to be resident in Kippen, is to recruit there, as well as at Fintry and Gargunnock; while Sergeant Dowie is to have the run of the rest of the district.

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The G.O.C. the Scottish District, General Tucker, has decided that the Volunteer Battalion comprising the A. and S. Brigade shall go to Barry Camp from 15th to 22nd July. The A. and S. expected to be sent to Gailes, as last year.

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An old 91st man in the person of James Innes, 43 Broad Street, has passed away. He went through the Indian Mutiny, and was wounded in the hand and knee at Lucknow. Having retired with a pension after 21 years' service, Innes found employment with Messrs. Lawson, Baker Street, as a tailor. He worked till a month ago, when he had to go to the Infirmary. Deceased was a well known player at draughts. His remains were interred in Ballangeich, a non-com. and twelve men from the Castle being in attendance.

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We are sorry to see that the 91st in their tussle with the Durhams were defeated by 3 goals to 1. We congratulate them on their performance in the Tournament and only wish them better luck next time.

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Ninety-third Calendar for April, 1904.

1 F. On War Establishment: Russian War Scare, 1878.
2 S.
3 S. Emb. W. Indies on board "*Orestes*" and "*Marquis of Huntly*" for England, 1834.
4 M. Arrvd. Portsmouth from Gibraltar on board "*Egypt*," 1881; to Aldershot. Head Quarters left Bareilly for Chaubattia, 1898.
5 Tu. Stirling to Edinburgh, 1850. Depot of 56th Brigade (92nd and 93rd) formed at Aberdeen.
6 W. Left Malta for Galipoli, 1854. Left Galipoli for Crimea, Troopship "*Kangaroo*" 1854. Joined General Walpole's Force for campaign in Rohilkhund, 1858.
7 Th. Furlough draft arrived, Nowshera, 1896.
8 F.
9 S. Head-Quarters arrived at Chaubattia, 1891.
10 S. 2nd Battalion arrived at Gravesend, 1841. Annual Highland games, Nowshera, 1869, Physical Drill Shield won by "H" Company
11 M. Arrvd. Galipoli from Malta, 1854.
12 Tu. Tug-of-War Shield won by "D" Company, Nowshera, 1896.
13 W.
14 Th.
15 F. Edinburgh to Glasgow, 1851.
16 S. Bri.-Genl. Adrian Hope *k.* Royah, 1858.
17 S.
18 M. "E" Company, winners of Football League, Nowshera, 1896. Inspection by Bri.-Genl. St. John Michell Fancourt, Ranikhet, 1900.
19 Tu.
20 W.
21 Th.
22 F.
23 S. 2nd Battalion under Maj. William Wemyss emb. Gosport, Troopships "*William Heathcote*" and "*Mariner*" for Newfoundland, 1814.
24 S.
25 M. Cape of Good Hope for England, Troopships "*Baring*," "*Preston*," and "*Norfolk*," 1814, 453 1st class A. R., joined (200 transferred to 91st) Russian War Scare, 1879.
26 Tu.
27 W. Lootwallah Scare, Nowshera, 1897.
28 Th.
29 F.
30 S. Arrived Shahjahanpur with Rohilkund Force, 1858.

Inter-Company Football League.

During the month of February one or two alterations have been made in the League Table. "D" Company still head the list with eighteen points for eleven matches played. "E" and "G" Companies make a good second and third with fourteen and twelve points respectively, the latter company having two games to the goal. "B" have dropped to the lowest step of the ladder having only four points for ten matches played. "D" Company are now, practically speaking, two points ahead of any other team, and look like prospective champions.

The following are the accounts of the matches played during February :—

LEAGUE.

"C" Company *v.* "H" Company—*8th February.*

"H" made a capital stand against "C." The game was very evenly contested throughout. "C" by a stroke of luck managed to score on one occasion. "H" tried to equalize, but failed to do so, and a very hard game ended in a win for "C" with the narrow margin of one goal. Result, "C" Company one goal, "H" Company, nil.

"D" Company *v.* "G" Company—*9th February.*

"D," who had slightly the better of matters throughout, registered a goal almost immediately after the commencement of the game. "G" failed to find the net before the interval. Soon after the restart "D" again scored through Pollock. During concluding minutes the exchanges were fast and even, but neither side again found the net, and the game thus ended in a win for "D" by two goals to nil.

"B" Company *v.* "A" Company—*10th February.*

"B" pressed nearly the whole of the first half, but being weak in front of the goal they failed to score. "A" got through once, by the help of Jardine, and were a point to the good at half time. Afterwards the exchanges were very even, neither side being able to successfully tackle the defence opposed to them, and the game was eventually won by "A." Score, "A" one goal, "B" nil.

"D" Company *v.* "C"—*11th February.*

For some time the play was rather tame and uneventful, and it was not until close on half time that "D" scored. Soon after changing ends "C" managed to equalize, but from this, right on to the end they seemed to be out of the game, and "D" scoring three more goals won easily by four goals to one.

"F" Company *v.* "E" Company—*12th February.*

Close and exciting play was associated with this game. Both teams played for all they were worth, and the game became very fast and interesting. Only one goal was registered before half time, and this fell to "E" Company. From this point until the finish, both sides strove their utmost, "F" especially being desirous of getting on

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equal terms. "E" however held their own and defeated their opponents by one goal to nil.

"H" Company *v.* "G" Company.—*13th February.*

"G" were the first to press, and Dalley was called on to save a splendid shot sent in by Mulholland. "G" had distinctly the better of the play up to the interval, although the occasional incursions of "H" were always dangerous. Half time arrived without either side scoring. On play being resumed "H" had as much of the game as their opponents and just on time, after a sharp conflict in front of "G" Coy's goal, succeeded in scoring, thus winning by one goal to nil,

"C" Company *v.* "A" Company.—*15th February.*

Losing the toss, "C" kicked off against the wind, but notwithstanding this drawback they were the first to press. Try, however, as they would, neither side could manage to score before the interval. The second half was hotly contested. Jardine, however, did the needful for "A" Company, who won by one goal to nil.

"D" Company *v.* "B" Company—*16th February.*

Despite their disadvantages, "B" were first to press and it was only through exceptionally bad luck that they did not score. "D" however, once they got settled down, were not long in assuming the aggressive, and for a time kept hovering round "B" Company's goal, but could not score until just on the interval, when Pollock with a stinging shot put his side one up. After resuming, "D" attacked continuously, "B" seldom crossing the half way line, and it was only the excellent defence given by "B" Company's backs and goalkeeper that saved them from a severe defeat. Towards the close McLay netted the ball again for "D," who thus won by two goals to nil.

"H" Company *v.* "E" Company—*17th February*

The play was fast and fairly even in the opening half, but before the interval "E" recorded a point, and changed sides with this advantage. "H" tried hard to equalize matters during the concluding portion of the game, but not only did "E" succeed in keeping their goal safe, but they added a second point to their score, and won by two goals to nil.

"F" Company *v.* "G" Company—*18th February.*

"F" started the game, and for the first few minutes had the best of the exchanges. "G" then settled down and were quickly round their opponents goal, and Markey was kept busy. Ultimately the pressure was relieved, and play became more even. "G" at length scored, and added a second point prior to changing ends. In the second half, "F" were seen to greater advantage, as they scored twice, getting upon equal terms. Neither side could score the leading point, and a draw was the result

"D" Company *v.* "A" Company—*19th February.*

Each side had a turn at pressing in the initial half, but neither could succeed in getting the leather through before half time. After the change of ends "D" forced the pace a bit, and as a result Pollock netted the ball. "A" tried hard to get on terms, but without success, and Blake towards the close obtained a second point for "D," who eventually won by two goals to nil.

"C" Company *v.* "B" Company—*20th February.*

"C" kicked off and immediately pressed, their centre scoring after the ball had been in motion but a few minutes. Midfield play ensued, "C" being most dangerous, but nothing further was scored before the interval. On resuming "B" pressed, bad shooting spoiling several chances. "C" then took up the running, and scored two more points, thus winning by three goals to nil.

"G" Company *v.* "E" Company—*22nd February.*

During the first half Mulholland scored a goal for "G" Coy. which was the only point scored in the match.

In the second portion of the game "E" had decidedly the better of the exchanges, but their shooting in front of the goal was most erratic. They were thus beaten by one goal to nil.

"H" Company *v.* "F" Company—*23rd February.*

During the first half of the game each goal was threatened in turn, but both remained intact at half time. Changing goals, though both teams tried hard to put the ball through, the defence was too good, and the game resulted in a draw.

"E" Company *v.* "A" Company—*24th February.*

For some considerable time there was comparatively little to choose between these two teams, and they crossed over without scoring. On resuming hostilities, "E" seemed to impart new life into their play, scoring three goals without any response from "A," who thus lost by three goals to nil.

"G" Company *v.* "B" Company—*25th February.*

Owing to "B" failing to present a team a victory was awarded to "G" Company.

"F" Company *v.* "C" Company—*26th February.*

"C" won the toss, but during the opening exchanges "F" had rather the better of matters. After a few minutes play, however, "C" seemed to settle to the work and play became very even, and at half time there was no scoring to record. On resuming, play continued even for some time. About two minutes from time, "C" scored somewhat luckily. It was too late for "F" to get on terms, and "C" thus recorded a win by a goal to nil.

"E" Company *v.* "D" Company—*27th February.*

Some close and exciting play was witnessed in this encounter. Play was tolerably even, and during the first half "D" were awarded a penalty. Pollock took the kick and made no mistake, send-

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ing the ball into the corner of the net, this being the only point registered in the early half. Play subsequently became faster and more exciting. "E" Company's custodian had several awkward shots to negotiate but he managed to avert further disaster. Towards the close "E" rallied for a final effort, and almost on the last minute Clarke succeeding in putting his side, on equal terms with their opponents. Result, "C" one goal, "D" one goal.

LEAGUE TABLE ENDING FEBRUARY, 1904.

No.	Company.	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	Goals. For.	Goals. Against.	Points.
1	"D"	11	8	2	1	23	7	18
2	"E"	11	6	2	3	19	11	14
3	"G"	9	5	2	2	10	8	12
4	"C"	11	5	2	4	13	10	12
5	"F"	9	2	5	2	9	6	9
6	"A"	9	2	1	6	1	15	5
7	"H"	8	1	2	5	4	10	4
8	"B"	10	1	2	7	5	17	4

"Halt! Who goes there?"

BY PIONEER HASKER.

"Sentries, to your post, quick march! Pass. Relieved sentry, dismiss!" And so, seeing the relief properly posted, the N.C.O. of the guard and the relieved sentry enter the guard-room, where a bright fire greets them. The relieved sentry shakes himself free of the watch cloak, and is soon busily engaged warming himself at the fire.

Outside all is stillness, save the rustle of the trees and the low moan of the sea as it beats on the shore some distance from the sentry's post. It is a cold, cheerless night of inky darkness, and the sentry is loathe to leave the welcome shelter of the verandah, which runs the length of the guard-room. He is only a youngster, and perhaps a little timid. They have been spinning yarns in the guard-room during the day, and he is thinking of one in particular. It is the story of the gunner who lays down his kit by the big gun, and invariably asks the sentry to make up his deficiencies.

Now, this particular gun he has to pass on his beat, and his order-board informs him that he must not allow anyone to interfere with it! This is rather a tall order, he thinks to himself; and determines to try and dismiss the subject from his mind. But he finds this a difficult matter to accomplish. Every time he passes the gun he gives it a casual glance, and makes up his mind that as the hands of the guard-room clock near the hour of midnight, he will stand easy under the verandah some distance from the horrible gun.

Suddenly he is awakened out of his reverie by the click of steel; then he remembers the officer of the day has not taken the guard. Peering through the gloom he can see nothing, but his ears again warn him of the approach of someone "Halt! who goes there?" "Grand rounds," is the answer. "Guard turn out!" and out they tumble. "Advance, grand rounds, all's well," cries the N.C.O. Soon the officer has inspected them, ordered the dismiss, and the sentry is once again left to his ruminations and the big gun.

He glances at the guard-room clock, and is agreeably astonished to find it has just passed the hour of midnight. He slopes his arms, continues his beat, this time pausing to give the big gun a good look. He satisfies himself that no kit is laid down, in consequence of which his courage makes a huge bound, and he tramps up and down with renewed confidence. Suddenly he comes to a standstill: someone is moving on the green, he feels certain. He cannot distinguish who or what it is on account of the darkness. He makes a movement towards the green to ascertain who it may be! He returns to his beat and orders his arms. He is all alertness and attention, with just a touch of timidity, which, in a few moments, turns to absolute fright.

The object on the green again claims his attention. He challenges it, but receives no answer. Again he asks, "Who goes there?" Still no answer. He is afraid to move hand or foot, and is shaking in every limb. At last fright entirely overcomes him, and, with one despairing yell, he turns out the guard!

The astonished guard quickly turn out, wondering what on earth is the matter. The N.C.O. questions the sentry as to the reason of his turning them out. A few seconds elapse before he receives any answer; the sentry's tongue seems glued to his mouth. At last he splutters out that someone is on the green and has not answered his challenge.

The N.C.O., taking a file of the guard, goes in search of the object of the sentry's fright.

After a few moments' silence, a voice is heard exclaiming, "We've got him!" And as the N.C.O. with the escort and prisoner come out of the darkness into the light of the guard-room, the remainder of the guard are astonished to see the object for whom they had been turned out! But what of the sentry? What were his thoughts? We will never know. But ever afterwards he was not allowed to forget the night he turned out the guard to *Newman's goat!*

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Poona Manœuvres 1904.

The long talked of manœuvres have at last come and gone. The regiment left for active service on 31st January, marching as far as the 6th mile stone on the Sirur and Ahmednagar road, where we encamped for the night. The battalion were clad as for the Delhi manœuvres with the one exception—that the blue diamond on the helmet was replaced by a white pugaree, so as to distinguish us from the red force whom we were opposing.

On 1st February, after a hot and dusty march, we arrived on the banks of the mighty river Bhima, and as part of No. 1 Section we were told off to line Dongargaon, Pimpri, Sangui, a front of seven miles, with our head quarters at Lonerwari.

"A," "D," "C," and "F" Coys. formed the first line, and were employed on outpost work for three days and nights. "aye ready" for the much talked of and expected night attacks which, however, never came off.

On the 4th February the enemy having attacked the left of our line held by the Native Infantry, with the East Lancashire Regiment in support, and having been severely defeated, we received orders to proceed to Loni-Kand. There the brigade concentrated at 7 p.m. At 12-30 p.m. we marched off again to the 6th mile stone on the Poona Road.

This we reached about 1-45 a.m., and proceeded to entrench a position as a rear guard about a mile in advance of our camp, holding a line some 4 miles in extent.

By 11 a.m. the line of defence was practically completed.

On the 5th our guns opened a heavy shell fire on the enemy. The forces were engaged reconnoitring each others positions.

On the 6th we received orders to throw our flanks further back.

At about 6-30 a.m. the enemy's scouts approached our picket line, and attempted to break through, but the Argyll and Sutherlands were not to be caught napping, and the cavalry scouts retired, wiser but sadder men.

The right of our position was held by 44 men of "A" Coy. at the village of Kharada on the Mutha Mulla, and here the scouts were busy, but the Highlanders were "*afee fly*" and kept "their eye on Paisley;" back went the scouts.

Alexander the Great's maxim was "It is pardonable to be defeated, but not to be surprised," and at about 2-30 p.m. on the 6th, manœuvres were brought to a rapid conclusion by two Battalions and half of Native Infantry crossing the Mutha Mulla and turning our right flank in a summary manner.

We were not surprised, we were defeated, and we were relieved, the tension was over and the Canteen loomed in the distance.

The victorious Army made a dash for Poona, and the Highlanders stood, with the river separating the rival forces, hurling Gaelic oaths at the heads of our Aerian brethern in arms; while the umpires on both sides went through the motions of putting sections out of action judging their own time.

The retirement of whites now became general.

"C" Company of the Highlanders had meanwhile made a gallant dash for Poona Bund Bridge and tried to intercept and hurl back the flanking movement of reds. But in this they failed. Cease fire sounded and troops retired to barracks.

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The "Father" of the Regiment

—:o:—

To be the "father" of a British regiment is an honour of which any man might be proud, and, ex-Private James M'Askill holds the distinction of being "father" of the 93rd Highlanders. The old man's residence is in the Callowgate, at 115, along a lobby, up a dark, rather worn stair, and then "at the second door on your left on the second floor." It is not exactly an ideal locality to live in, the surroundings are somewhat squalid, it is not particularly a place where one wishes to see a hero live—and all the men of the "Thin Red Line" were heroes, and Private M'Askill was one of them. Mr. M'Askill is rather deaf, and it was only a loud knock which secured response when he was up. He was engaged in some household occupation, his jacket off, and a peaked cap on his head. It was getting dark, and the room was in semi-darkness, the most of the light coming from the fire, but he soon had his oil lamp lighted and sat down to tell something of his life and of his adventures. His age is eighty-four, and yet he does not look more than sixty or sixty-five. He is still straight, with only now and again an inkling of a bend in his figure. His eyes are blue and still keen, and his sharp, clear-cut features are attractive to a degree, for they have something of the true warrior stamp in them, and the military turn of his whiskers and moustache do not detract anything from his appearance in this respect.

He eagerly launched into his story, starting at the beginning, when he was born into the 93rd Regiment on 8th November, 1819, his father being a private in the regiment at the time. After being a farm-servant in the country of Aberdeen he came to the city at eighteen years of age, and enlisted in the Cameron Highlanders. He recounted the various places where he was stationed in Scotland, England, Ireland, Canada. He was transferred to the Argyll and Sutherland Regiment in 1841.

"Then you went to the Crimea?"

"Yes," he said "I went to the Crimea at the beginning of 1854, after having been sixteen years a soldier. We were drenched to the skin the night we landed, before marching to the battle of the Alma. I'll never forget that night. We swept the Russians from the heights at Alma. I got my feather bonnet struck off my head there, but did not receive a scratch. My right hand man was wounded, and the man on the other side of me was killed. Then we went to Balaklava, marching 40 miles by a circuitous route. The 'Thin Red Line,' yes, we had no cover. The Turks, who were in front keeping the redoubts, ran away. The Russian cavalry came upon us like a cloud; we gave them a volley, and then more volleys and we sorted them in the course of fifteen minutes. They fled, leaving their horses dead on the plain. Lord Raglan, looking through his eye-glass, thought we were cut up, but it was only the smoke of our rifles that hid us from his view. After Inkermann I took brain fever, but recovered. Oh, I could tell you a great many things, but what's the use? We were a bad used army. What did we get to eat? We got no luxuries I can tell you."

"Your supplies were very short?"

"Yes," he said almost to himself, looking dreamily into the fire. "We were a bad used army. Then I was sent to India, and was at the relief of Lucknow and the capture of Lucknow. The 93rd are a fine regiment, though I belong to them I say they are second to none."

He looked up defiantly, and then went for the waistcoat on which hangs his medals and which he wears not commonly, but on certain occasions, such as when he goes to church and so on! There was the medal for the Crimea, with the claps for Alma, Balaklava and Sebastopol; the Turkish Crimean medal, the Indian Mutiny medal, with claps, "Relief of Lucknow," and "Lucknow;" and the long service medal.

"Lord Roberts handled them at Castlehill," he said gaily, "and I've got £1 from Lord Roberts."

Private M'Askill left the army in 1859, after serving 21½ years. He went to Turiff, where he acted as drill instructor to the volunteers for a time. About twenty years ago he came to Aberdeen. Notwithstanding his age he still moves about, and occasionally distributes circulars. His wife died four months ago.

"And do you live alone?"

"Well, I sleep alone, my daughter comes up and attends to things now and again. Yes, my wife died about four months ago, and none can know how much I've grieved over her. I've had a happy life, but the grave's ready for me when the Lord will."—*Aberdeen Free Press.*

—o—

Why do men wear spats? Opinion is by no means unanimous that they are either ornamental or comfortable. The truth is simply that it is another of the unforgotten fashions, and possessing one of the most remarkable origins. The man who wears spats nowadays may not be aware that in so doing he is in reality showing his appreciation of the gallantry of the Highland troops at Lucknow in the Mutiny. It is rather a long time to keep up the celebration, but the fact is strictly true. Enthusiasm for the Highlanders on that occasion was wonderfully keen, and everybody wanted to look something of a Scot. London children were dressed up in kilts. City men would have liked to have followed suit, but the banks and the Stock Exchange would have thought it too ridiculous. So they went as far as they could without making too much of a show, and simply copied the Highlanders as to their feet. Hence the spats worn to-day.

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Soldiers' Slang.

—:o:—

When the average recruit finds himself in a barrack-room for the first time, the language that he hears going on around him is practically a new one. At any rate, it is very different from that with which he has hitherto been familiar. After a few days, of course, he gets used to it; until such time, however, he probably finds it very strange.

"Now then out of those kips at once or you'll be in the digger!" shouts the non-commissioned officer in charge of the barrack-room at six o'clock in the morning. This command is even more alarming than it sounds, for it means that, unless the men rise from their beds immediately, they will be sent to the guard-room as prisoners. When a soldier is placed in this position he talks of himself as being "clinked." Should he be so unfortunate as to be sent to a military prison, he always refers to the establishment as "the College," and informs his friends that he has been there "to get his hair cut."

The time that a soldier spends in hospital is described as time spent "in dock," a term that is decidedly more appropriate than are the majority of those adopted in barrack-room slang. The doctors who attend them during this period are known as "poultice-wallahs," while the members generally of the Royal Army Medical Staff are alluded to as "linseed lancers." Men who go into hospital with the idea of being discharged to civil life on account of ill-health are said to be "working their tickets."

To a large extent military life is regulated by bugle call. For no very apparent reason, a bugler is termed a "fiddler," while peculiar names are also applied to the various calls that he sounds throughout the day. The ration-one, for example, is known as the "roti-call," when it means that bread is to be issued. This expression—like many others in barrack-room use—is derived from the Hindustani. One such is "dekho," which means "show me," or "let me look," and another is "batman," that is, an officer's servant.

When soldiers have nothing for breakfast beyond the Government rations of bread and coffee, they describe their meal as "slingers," or "coffee cutlets." It is reported of a young officer who was not aware of this custom that, on being told that the men of his company were breakfasting off "slingers," he innocently inquired if they had been properly cooked? For the remaining articles of food there are no special names, save perhaps those of "bully-beef" (that is, preserved meat), "jipper" (soup), and "duff" (plum pudding). The man who is appointed to fetch the rations to the barrack-room is known either as "cook's mate" or "Mary Anne."

"Flag" is the term applied to a colour-sergeant. This is probably due to the fact that non-commissioned officers of this rank have two miniature flags embroidered on their right arm. A somewhat similar expression is that of "flag-wagger," meaning a signaller. A chaplain is called a "sky-pilot," and a bandsman is alluded to as a "wind-jammer." If a man is an old soldier—and in these days of "short-service" such dignity is soon attained—he is known as a "swaddy." A recruit on the other hand, is a "rooky."

Soldiers who shun the attractions of the canteen are referred to by their comrades as being "on the cot," and those who patronise the supper bar extensively are called "bun-stranglers." The cleaning of equipment is known as "graft" and men who distinguish themselves in this direction are said to be "going in for the stick." This expression owes its origin to a military custom which excuses the best turned out man on a guard-mounting parade from going on duty. He is appointed instead orderly for the day to the colonel, and as such carries a stick in place of a rifle.

Among the occupants of every barrack-room there are always two or three men who are fond of arguing. They are called "lawyers," and those of them who happen to be grumblers as well are described as "grousers." As may be imagined such individuals are not popular with their companions.—*Cassell's Saturday Journal.*

AN INTERPRETER WANTED

Three Highland lads called together at a registrar's office in the south side of Glasgow to register a marriage. As they were slow to mention their business, the clerk said sharply, "Well?" Angus M'Tavish, the eldest of the three, thereupon began his explanation—"Rory and her was called to swore that Shon M'Nab was a marriage." "What do you say?" Angus repeated the words. They looked puzzled. "You say M'Nab swore at a marriage. I don't understand you." "No, no," explained Shon, "It's her that was a marriage, and Angus and Rory will swore." "Her marriage? Oh, I see. The young lady swore she was married before M'Nab married her." "What's that you say?" exclaimed Shon angrily. "Took care what you'll spoke. Flora was her husband's man's sister-in-law, and was never a marriage since she was born." "See here" said the clerk testily. "what is it you want me to do?" "To be a marriage wi' Flora M'Kay," "Great Scot! I don't want to be married to Flora M'Kay." "You? Take care what you'll spoke. What wants you?" The clerk lost all patience. "Call back in an hour," he said, "and see the registrar himself; he speaks Gaelic." "Weel, if you was not spoken Gaelic, what for does he no' leave a man that can understand English?" said Angus, as he turned away indignantly with the others.

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Presentation to Cr. Sergeant. Durnan.

———:o:———

Colour Sergeant Durnan was made the recipient of a handsome writing table and table lamp (suitably inscribed) from the Officers, N.C.Os. and men of "D" Company, on the occasion of his leaving the Battalion to take up an appointment as Quartermaster Sergeant (Officiating) at Jhizree Sanitarium.

In making the presentation Captain Marshall referred to the Colour Sergeant's faithful services in the past, as Signalling Sergeant to the Battalion, and he felt sure that whereever he went discipline would be kept up to its standard.

The Colour Sergeant in reply thanked the men for the support they had given him during the time he had been Colour Sergeant of "D" Company, and said that he had every confidence in their football abilities for this year, and hoped they would go on and win the Tug-of-War shield. On the conclusion of the reply the men, one and all, wished Colour Sergeant and Mrs. Durnan every success in their new sphere.

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

———:o:———

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

THAT he didn't get his afternoons nap this morning.

That he has population of the heart.

That the flyest horse doon a pit was a mule.

That a' he needed to do was to indentify for it.

That he had nae bayonet, he had only his belt and side arms.

That the magazine holds Ten Rounds with five in the pouch.

That they give it ye wi' baith hans and tak' it back wi' the itl er.

That the officer blew the shot before he fired the whistle.

That he wis that cauld his ee'n widna' work.

That the enemy was advancin' two thousand years strong over the hill.

That he fell off the floor.

Letters to the Editor.

———:o:———

The Editor is glad to be able to furnish "Pro Rege" with the information asked for on page 109 of our November number. Two subscribers have very kindly contributed the words of the song. As there is a slight variation between the two, the Editor thinks best to publish both.

The first was furnished by Mr. James Fraser, accompanied by the following letter, to whom we offer our best thanks.

To The Editor of "The Thin Red Line."

Dear Mr. Editor,

I enclose a copy of the song entitled "The Kilties in the Crimea," as I heard it sung at the feeing markets in the north of Scotland, Grantown-on-Spey, in particular, about forty-five years ago. I learned it then, when herding the cattle on the hill sides of Invernesshire, and will never forget it.

I also enclose an account of the funeral of William Fraser, one of the Thin Red Line veterans, which I am sure will be taken notice of by "The Thin Red Line."

Wishing The Editor and the 93rd Highlanders a Happy New Year.

I am,
Sincerely yours,
JAMES FRASER.

6, Park Place,
Alloa.

———:0:———

THE KILTIES IN THE CRIMEA.

1. The Kilties are the lads for me,
They're aye the foremost in the spree,
And when they're in they'll no come oot,
Though a' the world should turn aboot.
They're no the lads tae rin awa,
They'll feeht while they hae breath tae blaw;
Just tell them whare tae meet the fo,
And shouther tae shouther an' awa' they go.

Chorus—
Hurrah for a' the Kilty lads
In their tartan plaids and white cockades,
Just set them down before the foe,
And shouther tae shouther an awa' they go.

2. O, wha can match them in the ranks,
Wi' their burly briests and sturdy shanks,
Or wha daur meet them in the field,
Or face their deadly raw o' steel?
A thousand o' your feckless loons,
That wear the breeks and hide in toons,
Wad rin awa' whene'er they saw
A score o' Kilties in a raw.

3. Noo, there's the Royal Forty-twa,
They care for neither frost nor snaw,
The rain may pour, the wind may blaw,
And a' the light'ning bleeze awa,
But aye they're foremost in the fry.
Stan' oot the road and let them by,
Or fegs ye'll get a dose o' leid
That will gar ye dance wi' your heels o'er heid.

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4. The Kilties gaed tae help the Turks,
Wi' a' their pistols, guns, and dirks,
And when the bagpipes gied a blaw,
The Turks they fainted clean awa'.
Their lasses, tae, and wives sae queer,
They werena like our lasses here—
They buckled up there een wi' clouts,
As if our Kilties had been brutes.

5. At Alma, when the shot and shell
Where sounding many a soldier's knell,
When the bravest hearts drew back aghast
Before the dense and deadly blast,
Sir Colin wi' his kilted clan
Came bounding forward tae the van,
"Hurrah!" he cried wi' a voice sae clear,
"The kilted lads are wanted here.

6. "Noo, a ye rantin' and roarin' chiels,
That like the mountain dew sae weel,
Run up an' prog them wi' your steel
As soon's ye hear the bagpipes squeal.
Blaw up your pipes wi' micht and main,
Altho' you ne'er should gruat again,
And when they're frichtet at the blaw,
Draw oot your dirks and at them a'."

7. Sir Colin waved his sword on high,
Then wi' a wild unearthly cry
Up rushed the Kilties tae the foe
And felled a man at every blow.
Ower horses, men, and guns they speeled
And cleared the Russians frae the field,
While far and near was heard the cheer,
Aboon the pibroch soondin' clear.

8. The Russian General, when he saw
The Kilties chase his men awa'
Cried oot, "Does ony mortal ken,
Whether they're wild beasts or men?"
Sir Colin cried, "Come here my man,
And I will tell, for weel I can,
The Kilted lads, are just," he says,
"Oor horsemen's wives in their Suaday claes."

9. Sir Colin Campbell kent fu' weel
The Ninety-third were true as steel,
When up he drew them in a raw,
At Balaklava, kilts and a'.
The Russian horsemen charged them then
Our horsemen's wives stood up like men,
And gave them sic a dose o' leid,
They a' ran off that werena deid.

10. But och! nae mair we'll fecht ava,
This weafu' peace has spoilt it a,'
It's garred our Kilties lose their wark
And ne'er a lad maun draw his dirk.
But a' oor wives and women folk
Wi' perfect joy are like to choke,
And mony a' ane'll get a smack,
When the gallant kilted lads come back.

:o:

"THE KILTIE LADS."

1 Ye Kilties are the lads for me,
Ye'r aye the foremost in a spree,
But when ye'r in, ye'll no come oot,
Tho a' the worl' shood turn aboot.
Ye'r no like lads wid rin awa,
Ye'll fecht while ye hae breath to draw;
Just set them doon a'fore the foe,
An shooder tae shooder awa' they'll go.

Chorus—Hurrah, Hurrah, ye kiltie lads,
Wi' tartan plaids an white cockades.
Tell them where they'll meet the foe,
An shooder tae shooder awa'they'll go.

2 Noo, wha can match them in the ranks,
For burly briests an' sturdy shanks,
Or wha daur meet them in the fiel,
Or face their deadly raw o' steel?
A thoosan' o' ye feckless loons,
That wear the breeks or leeve in toons,
Wad flee awa whene'er ye saw
A score o' kilties in a raw.

3 Noo, there's the royal Forty Twa,
They care for neither frost nor snaw,
The rain may poor, the win may blaw,
An a' the lichtning bleeze awa,
But aye the foremost in the fry.
Stan oot the road an let them by,
Or fegs ye'll get a dose o' leid,
That'll gar ye dance ye'r heels ower heid.

4 The kilties gaed tae fecht the Turks,
Wi' aw' their pistols, guns an dirks,
But when the bagpipes gaed a blaw,
The Turks they fainted clean awa.
Their lassies, tae, an wives sae queer,
They wer'na like oor lassies here,
For they buckled up their heids wi cloots,
As if oor kiltie lads were brutes.

5 At Alma, when the shot an shell
Were booming, mony a soldier fell,
When braver hearts drew back aghast,
Before the dense an deadly blast,
Sir Colin wi' his kilted clan,
Cam riding forward to the van,
"Hurrah," he cried, wi' voice sae clear,
"Ye kilted lads are wanted here.

6 "Noo, a' ye rantin' roarin' chiels,
That like the mountain dew sae weel,
Rin up an prog them wi yer steel,
As sin as ye hear the bagpipes squeal,
Bla' up thae pipes wi micht an main,
Altho' ye ne'er shood skirl again,
An whan ye've brot them tae the blaw,
Draw oot yer dirks an stick them a'."

7 Sir Colin waved his sword on high,
Then wi' a wild unearthly cry,
Up rushed the kilties tae the foe,
An felled a man at every blow,
Their horsemen, guns, an men they spoiled,
An cleared the Russians from the field,
While faur an near, we heard the cheer,
Aboon the bagpipes soondin' clear,

8 Sir Colin Camell kent fu' weel,
The Ninety Third were true as steel,
When up he drew them in a raw,
At Balaklava, kilts an a.'
The Russian horsemen charged them then,
Oor kilted lads stood up like men,
An gied them sic' a dose o' leid,
That they a' ran off that wisna deid.

9 The Russian general when he saw
Oor kilties chase his men awa,'
Cried oot, "Dis ony mortal ken,
Whither they are wild beasts or men?"
Sir Colin cried, "Come here my man,
An' I will tell as weel's I can,
These kilted lads, are just," he says,
"Oor horsemen's wives in their Sunday claes."

This last was very kindly contributed by

Mr. JOHN SMITH,
87, Adelphi St.,
Glasgow.

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Temperance Notes.

R.A.T.A.

Mr. Clare White, who has relieved our well known General Secretary, the Rev. Mr. Bateson, of his arduous duties for twelve months, visited us in the course of his tour through the country on the 11th February. Mr. Clare White is an old Indian Veteran, and left the army with the rank of Warrant Officer. He is in possession of several medals, has fought through three campaigns, during which he was wounded at Noria, and has had the honour of being presented to His Majesty the King. In connection with his visit, tea was served in the R.A.T.A. Room at 6 p.m., and a concert held in the Regimental Theatre at 9-30 p.m., with Lieut.-Colonel Stanley Paterson in the chair. There was a good turn-out of officers, and the theatre was filled to overflowing. Our "Padre", the Rev. Mr. Cant, was present, and goodly numbers of the fair six. The chairman having made a few typical remarks, the concert was opened by Bandsman Walsh, whose rendering of "Sweet Afton" was worthy of his reputation; but the artistes on the programme appended are pretty well known, so I shall not say anything further about the vocal part of the entertainment than that it was a success. I should, however, like this opportunity of remarking that the instrument on which the songs were accompanied, was, to the most untutored ear, out of tune; in fact, if I may be permitted to use a "localism," at present in use with Tommy, "It was painful." This, however, may have been due to its frequent journeys around Wanowrie.

The Chairman, during the interval presented to the battalion a life size photo of Mr. Finlayson, the kindly old Scotchman whom most of us knew as a friend in Calcutta, with a request that it might adorn the walls of the R.A.T.A. room. He also impressed upon us that he was not a defender of bigoted teetotalism, but if a man exceeded moderation, then total abstinence and the ranks of the A.T.A. were his only refuge. Mr. Clare White then made an earnest appeal on behalf of Temperance, which, with the exception of interruptions occasioned by vociferous applause, was received with undivided attention. It was replete with humour and anecdote, and the fact of the speaker having served so long as a soldier in the ranks of the British Army entitled him to a place amongst the first of the exponents of the noble cause of temperance, and therefore his speech must have carried conviction to the hearts of many of his audience. The second part of the entertainment was then proceeded with, and the evening's enjoyment terminated with the chairman's closing remarks, votes of thanks, and the National anthem.

PROGRAMME.

1 SONG ..."Sweet Afton" ... *Bandsman Walsh.*
2 SONG ..."Let me like a Soldier Fall" ... ...*Pte. Davis.*
3 CLUB SWINGING ... ... ,, *Blackley.*
4 SWORD DANCE ... ...*Lance Cpl. Piper Finlayson.*
5 GRAMAPHONE SELECTION ... *Lce. Sergt. Newell.*
6 SONG ..."Comic" ... ...*Pte. Penn.*
7 RECITATION "The Engineer's Story"... ,, *Galloway.*
8 SONG ..."Comic" ... ... ,, *Stewart.*

INTERVAL, TEN MINUTES.

9 SELECTION... ... ...*Band*
10 REEL DANCING ... ...*Lance Cpl. Piper Finlayson, Pipers Smith, Planner and Nicholson.*
11 SONG ..."Lost Chord" ... ...*Bandsm. Walsh.*
12 SONG ..."Comic" ... ...*Pte. Penn.*
13 RECITATION "Humorous" ... ... ,, *Galloway.*
14 SONG ... "Rising Early in the Morning."... ... ... ,, *Stewart.*

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

The following were recipients of honours during the month of February, 1904:—

SIX MONTH'S STAR.

"A" Company.

Private McPhee | Private Robertson.

"C" Company.

Corporal Brett | Lance Corporal Donaldson.
Private McKim.

"E" Company.

Sergeant McCrae | Private Raeburn.
Private Scrymgeour.

"F" Company.

Private Green | Private McKay.
,, Grant | ,, Madden.
,, Jack | ,, Wainwright.

"H" Company.

Private Downie | Private McArthur.
,, Howarth | ,, McPherson.

ONE YEAR'S MEDAL.

"A" Company.

Private Thomson | Private Davis.
Private King

"E" Company.

Private Raeburn

"F" Company.

Corporal Bertram | Private Madden.
Private McKay | ,, Wainwright.
Private Cassidy

"H" Company.

Lance Corporal Blackley | Private Pledger.

TWO YEARS' MEDAL.

Private Paterson ... ..."A" Company.

THREE YEARS' MEDAL.

Private McCreath ... ..."F" Company.
,, Perston ... ..."H" ,,

FOUR YEARS' MEDAL.

Lance Corporal Downs... ..."C" Company.
Private Carlyle ... ..."C" ,,

FIVE YEARS' MEDAL.

Private McGinley ... ..."E" Company.
,, Baxter ... ..."F" ,,

SIX YEARS' MEDAL.

Private Forbes ... ..."E" Company.
Lce. Sergt. Stewart ... ..."H" ,,
Private Lyons ... ..."H" ,,

EIGHT YEARS' MEDAL.

Lce. Cpl. McMahon ... ..."C" Company.
Sergeant Cockburn ... ..."G" ,,

NINE YEARS' MEDAL.

Sergeant Sutherland ... ..."H" Company.

TEN YEARS MEDAL.

Sergeant Buchanan ... ..."G" Company.

TWELVE YEARS' MEDAL.

Drummer Hughes ... ..."D" Company.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

ANTEDATED PROMOTION.

No. 7764, Corporal E. G. Harvey, "A" Company, antedated to 8-2-02.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Officiating Quartermaster at Jhizree Sanitarium:—

No. 3394, Colour Sergeant J. Durnan, "D" Company,

To be provisional Lance Corporal :—

No. 5546 Piper J. McLachlan, "H" Company, dated 9-2-04.

No. 7174 Private W. McPherson "H" Coy. dated 15-2-04.
,, 7977 ,, A. Blackley ,, ,, ,, 15-2-04.
,, 7703 ,, D. Stirling ,, ,, ,, 18-2-04.
,, 8089 ,, J. Paterson ,, ,, ,, 18-2-04.
,, 6541 ,, T. Scrymgeour "E" ,, ,, 22-2-04.
,, 5044 ,, J. McMahon "C" ,, ,, 23-2-04.
,, 6296 ,, J. Gellately "E" ,, ,, 24-2-04.

To be Drummer :—No. 8909 Private W. McLean, "G" Company, dated 10-2-04.

To be acting Pipers :—No. 4207 Private R. Nicholson, "G" Company, dated 9-2-04.

No. 7082 Private W. Allan, "F" Company, dated 9-2-04.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 4d. per diem :—

"D" Company.

No. 4314 Drummer W. Hughes.

"E" Company.

No. 2106 Lance Corporal J. Ogden.

At 3d. per diem :—

"B" Company.

No. 3553, Private A. Selby.

"H" Company.

No. 4295 Private A. C. Keeble.

At 2d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 5168 Private R. McCallum.

"C" Company

No. 6449 Pte. G. W. Yeo. | No. 4942 Pte. J. Brodie.
,, 6428 ,, R. Carlyle. | ,, 6480 ,, J. Campbell.

"E" Company.

No. 6444 Pte. J. Young. | No. 6440 Lce. Cpl. E. McKroy.
,, 4706 ,, G. Bain. | ,, 6469 Private J. Kidd.

"G" Company.

No. 6272 Private J. Leitch.

At 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 5189 Private H. Allen. | No. 8158 Private R. Charles.
Mo. 8279 Private P. Gunn.

"B" Company.

No. 7449 Private C. Hunter | No. 7091 Pte J. Monteith.

"C" Company.

No. 8174 Pte. J. Fleming. | No. 7088 Pte. R. Jenkin.

"D" Company.

No. 7726 Pte. W. O'Hary. | No. 7517 Pte. N. McInnes.
No. 7382 Private J. McWilliams.

"E" Company.

No. 5358 Private. D. Tosh. | No. 6628 Pte. J. Rankine.
,, 6878 ,, P. Scrymgeour | ,, 5259 ,, W. Gunn.
No. 5288 Private W. Stewart.

"F" Company.

No. 6441 Private T. Green. | No. 5438 Private T. Brown.

"G" Company.

No. 4573 Pte. G. Murphy. | No. 6319 Pte. J. Johnstone.

"H" Company.

No. 5958 Private J. McLennan.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted certificates for having gone through a course of instruction for destroying Mosquito Larvæ :—

No. 5827 Private J. B. Clarke, "F" Company.
,, 7220 ,, W. Harrison, "G" Comparny.
,, 6473 ,, J. Duncan, "E" Company.

CLASSES.

The undermentioned have qualified in Stretcher Drill, Ambulance Work, and First Aid. Authority, O.C. Station Hospital, A.F. 1 1224, dated 30-1-04.

No.	4867	Private	J. Quigley	"A" Company.
,,	6829	,,	D. Cameron	"A" ,,
,,	7319	,,	J. Lothian	"B" ,,
,,	8064	,,	D. Brash	"C" ,,
,,	7190	,,	A. Findlay	"C" ,,
,,	6892	,,	T. Smith	"F" ,,
,,	7423	,,	J. Cowan	"F" ,,
,,	9258	,,	J. Mulholland	"G" ,,
,,	7755	,,	A. Millar	"G" ,,
,,	6238	,,	J. Smith	"G" ,,
,,	7526	,,	D. McGilp	"F" ,,
,,	7821	,,	G. Vernon	"C" ,,
,,	7392	,,	G. Hay	"C" ,,
,,	9245	,,	M. Cunningham	"B" ,,
,,	7896	,,	W. Reid	"B" ,,
,,	7566	,,	J. Jardine	"A" ,,

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete Twenty-one Years' Service :—

No. 4805 Sergeant W. Norrie, "F" Company.
,, 5368 ,, J. McQueen, "C" Company.

To complete Twelve Years' Service with the Colours :—

No. 6826 Sergeant A. Gibb, "B" Company
,, 8909 Drummer W. McLean, "G" ,,
,, 7811 ,, G. B. Scott, "G" ,,

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

No. 9372 has been allotted to Private William Powell, "G" Company.

STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

Discharged to Army Reserve in India on the 10th February, 1904.

5960 Private D. Dinwoodie, "F" Company.

Transferred to 2nd Battalion Royal Scots :—

No. 4922 Private R. Gunn, "C" Company.

TAKEN ON STRENGTH.

Transferred from 1st Battalion Seaforth Highlanders, dated 1st February, 1904, posted to "C" Company.

Private William Hill.

RESTORATION OF SERVICE.

In accordance with paragraph 1842, R.K., the service forfeited by :—

No. 6608 Private T. Rennie, "D" Company.

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Trooping Changes.

Embarked for England on the H. T. "Soudan" on the 26th February, 1904.

Transferred to Army Reserve :—
No. 5873 Private D. Telfer, "H" Company.
,, 5874 ,, A. Thomson, "A" ,,
,, 5855 ,, W. Brodie, "G" ,,

Time-expired twelve years :—
No. 4389 Private K. McKay, "G" Company.
,, 4073 ,, J. Gillan, "H" ,,
,, 4007 ,, T. Neilson, "E" ,,

Invalid :—
No. 7613 Private H. McLaughlin "E" Company.

Furloughs :—
No. 5842 Sergeant R. Glass, "A" Company.
,, 5678 Corporal T. Scott, "C" ,,

Draft.

The undermentioned—a draft from the 1st Battalion—are taken on the strength and posted to Companies as under :—

"A" Company.

No. 4742 Private J. Darick. | No. 7911 Private T. Reilly.
,, 8212 ,, W. Glynn | ,, 8367 ,, R. McGill.

"B" Company.

No. 6169 Private E. McDermid.
No. 7056 Pte. H. Sneddon. | No. 7911 Pte. J. Smith.
,, 7694 ,, J. Nutt | ,, 8986 ,, F. Elton.

"C" Company.

No. 4397 Sergeant E. G. Cody.

No. 6472	Pte.	D. Drew.	No. 8063	Pte.	E. Glynn.
,, 8232	,,	H. Todd.	,, 8993	,,	W. McIntyre
,, 9055	,,	J. Millar.	,, 9091	,,	J. Main.
,, 9123	,,	W. Martin.	,, 9127	,,	W. Blair.
,, 9160	,,	A. Galbraith.	,, 9226	,,	J. Brown.

"D" Company.

No. 6777	Pte.	A. McGlasson	No. 7387	Pte.	C. Urquhart.
,, 8111	,,	J. Scott.	,, 8265	,,	H. Fraser.
,, 9016	,,	W. Brown.	,, 9146	,,	J. Roberts.

"E" Company.

No. 6847 Private W. Campbell.
No. 8189 Pte. P. Skiff. | No. 8284 Private W. McIntosh.

"F" Company.

No. 6952 Pte. J. Stirling. | No. 9166 Pte. T. McCready.

"G" Company.

No. 6557 Private H. Bell.
No. 8158 Pte. W. Gerry. | No. 8356 Pte. W. McIntosh.

"H" Company.

No. 7722 Pte. Dunsmore | No. 8211 Pte. T. Ingram.

Furloughs.

No. 6083	Private	W. Miller	1-3 to 30-4-04.
,, 5291	Lance-Sergeant	R. Tawse	10-2 to 10-3-04.
,, 7501	Corporal	J. McKinly	10-2 to 9-3-04.
,, 6535	Lance-Corporal	T. Cridland	10-2 to 10-3-04.
,, 7507	Piper	R. Kean	10-2 to 10-3-04.
,, 6746	,,	J. Wright.	10-2 to 10-3-04.

Invalids.

Passed Invaliding Board at Poona :—

No. 4092	Private	J. White	"C"	Company.
,, 6782	,,	J. Rogan	"C"	,,
,, 6622	,,	T. King	"A"	,,
,, 9278	,,	J. Murray	"B"	,,
,, 7444	,,	R. McKinnon	"E"	,,
,, 6844	,,	R. Wright	"C"	,,
,, 8153	,,	J. Cairney	"G"	,,
,, 7068	,,	J. Pennman	"A"	,,
,, 7577	,,	A. T. Duff	"F"	,,
,, 7628	,,	J. Macey	"F"	,,

Domestic Occurrences.

Marriage.

Rodwell-Symes.—On the 12th January, 1904, at St. Luke's Church, Tidal Basin, London, E., Private George Thomas Rodwell, late Ninety-third Highlanders, to Bessie Symes.

Subscriptions.

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	a.	p
Major Forbes	6	0	0
Major Paton	6	0	3
Captain Graham	6	0	0
Captain Cox	3	0	0
Captain Cameron	2	14	0
Sergeant Johnstone	10	8	0
Sergeant Daniel	2	0	0
Lance Sergt. Newall	3	12	0
A. Ross	4	7	0

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following papers :—

"St. George's Gazette"	for January.
"The H. L. I. Chronicle"	,, ,,
"The Sapper"	,, ,,
"The Dragon"	,, ,,
"The Tiger and the Rose"	,, ,,
"The Oak Leaf"	,, ,,
"The Indian Volunteer Record and Military News"	,, ,,
"The Military Mail"	Weekly.
"The Aldershot News"	,,
"The Stirling Sentinel"	,,
"The Rothesay Express"	,,
"The Oban Times"	,,

Rates of Subscription.

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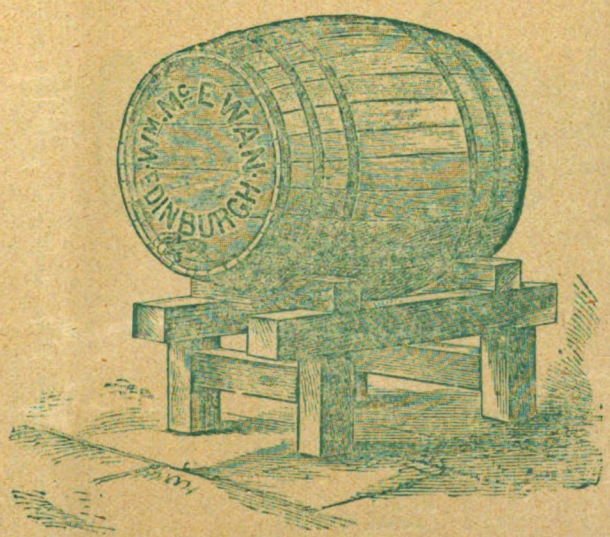

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APRIL 1904.

The Thin Red Line.

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THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Battalion (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 12—Vol. IX.] POONA—MARCH, 1904. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE topic of conversation during the month has been the New Service Pay, and all are looking anxiously forward to see what April really will bring forth. As one anticipates keeping in line with Tommy in the new military year, (from an outsiders' standpoint) he will be reminded of a song well nigh obsolete now, "Ye'll hae tae get a big pye noo." However, next month we shall know about it; in fact, almost as soon as this paper is in print we hope to be the recipients of our increased pay.

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In connection with the new pay, all men not in possession of a certificate of education have had to attend school during the month. A more fatiguing ordeal could not have been chosen for some. Especially those, now well on with their second period, who have always considered it a great joke to see the voluntary attenders having to turn out at school call.

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The new furlough scheme, now under consideration, caused quite a commotion, as soon as it was known that such a movement was on foot. We publish the scheme, as issued to companies during the month, elsewhere in our columns, so that our readers may have it for reference.

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The second party of casuals started musketry on the 17th under Lieutenant R. R. Forbes.

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Lieutenant Forbes has to be congratulated on his successful invention of a new method for carrying the Machine Gun on a mule. The invention, which is quite an ideal improvement, makes it possible to carry the gun on a transport saddle, or any pack-saddle. This, of course, would prove invaluable on service, when, if the gun mule was shot, the gun could easily be removed and placed on another saddle—the great advantage being that the strap and band which hold the gun on the pack saddle are not part of the saddle at all.

The gun has simply to be lifted on to the saddle like an ordinary mule load, and the rings, one attached to a brass band fitted on to the barrel-casing, and two to a carrying strap in which the breech casing portion of the gun rests, slipped over the hooks.

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Names of N.C.Os. recommended for a six months' course of instruction in working Traction Engines has been called for. Whether we shall be driving motors in the new military year to keep in line with the new pay, it is hard to say.

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We offer our congratulations to Lieutenant R. G. Maclaine, who has passed the examination in subjects (a) and (b) for promotion held in Poona.

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Captain McCandlish having returned from England on the 20th instant, took over pay and Command of his Company ("A") from Lieutenant Gillatt.

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One Sergeant per Company has been detailed to undergo a course of instruction in Pay Sergeants' duties, under company arrangements. This, as well as proving a help in the Company work, will increase one's capacity considerably in that line.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

Mr. Albert Blacklock, Edinburgh, the father of our late master tailor, has written to express his thanks for the kindly feeling shown by the Non-commissioned officers and men of the Regiment who erected a handsome memorial stone in Calcutta cemetery over the remains of his son, and also tendering his thanks to Corporal Bertram for the photograph taken of the stone and grave. Our old comrade will sleep not the less peacefully to know that his aged parent is comforted by the knowledge that, though far away, the hands of loving comrades performed the last sad duties in connection with the interment and erection of the memorial.

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In order to make themselves acquainted with the different offices of the Battalion, Lieut. Forbes has been detailed to attend the Adjutant's office for instruction, whilst 2nd Lieutenants Maclaine and Cuninghame have been detailed to attend the Paymaster's and Quartermaster's office respectively.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

Among those who have taken or intend taking advantage of leave, are Lieutenant the Hon. R. Bruce, who has obtained general leave in India from 1st May to 31st July. 2nd Lieutenant Cuninghame proceeded on 10 days leave on the 20th March, and 2nd Lieutenant Airy 10 days on the 18th March. We regret to hear, however, that 2nd Lieutenant C. O. Hay has been recommended sick leave to England, and trust that he may soon be restored to health.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

Again we have to chronicle changes in the pay and command of Companies. This time Lieutenant Forbes has taken over pay and command of "C" Company from Lieutenant Akers-Douglas, who has proceeded on leave to England, and 2nd Lieutenant Cheape has taken over "F" Company from Captain Elphinstone, who has also taken six months leave at home.

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Now that the Battalion is quartered in a station where there is breathing space for both "Jock" and his canine friend, rules and regulations similar to those that existed in Ranikhet have been drawn up and published, by which dogs may be possessed and registered by the numerous fanciers in the Battalion.

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On account of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, the officers have once more had to don the mournful black band.

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Our congratulutions are offered to 2nd Lieutenants Pulford and Airy on their success in passing the Urdu examination, Higher Standard, and to Captain Hyslop, and 2nd Lieutenants Carroll, Birdwood, and Hogg who were successful in passing the Lower Standard; and we trust that these officers will kindly accept our apologies for not having chronicled their success before this.

∴ ∴ ∴ ∴

The signalling inspection of the Battalion took place on the 28th January. The Inspector's report was very satisfactory. He expressed himself as very well pleased with all he had seen, and reported a very great improvement on last year's work.

Taking into consideration that all the signallers who took part in the inspection, with a few exceptions, were young hands, it gives great credit to the instructors. The C.O. expressed his approval of the great improvement. We hope that the signallers will appreciate the fact that Poona is more suitably adapted to signalling than Calcutta, and that they will show a better report next year. Much of the credit of course is due to the untiring efforts of Lieut. A. J. H. Maclean and Assistant Instructor Corporal Hiddles.

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We are glad to have Corporal Hiddles back with us again. His encounter with a mad dog in the Bazaar, which necessitated his putting up at Kasauli for a month, has left its mark, but he is now feeling fit and as well as ever. Corporal Hiddles had gone to the assistance of a native girl, when the dog turned on him, and bit his chest and leg. Then, after upsetting some other natives, returned to him and gave him a severe bite on the arm. Hiddles deserves praise for his brave deed, not to speak of the kindly act shown to the little native girl.

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The Muta-Mula.

Poona can boast of two rivers in one, and according to where you go you can see one or two. From the Bund Bridge you see one, the Muta-Mula. If you choose to go to the Sangam Bridge you will see two, one the Muta and the other the Mula. It is hard to remember which is which unless you notice that the Muta, which has a *t* in it, comes past the city.

One would expect great things from the fine sweep of water there is at the Sangam, but, go a hundred yards or so further up, and you will find a few stagnant pools. Then, a bit further down, the Muta and Mula together can scarcely keep up a current because of the course grasses and boulders which choke the channel. The abundance of water at the Sangam is due, of course, to the Sir Jamsetjee Bund. And yet we are told that this river runs to the other side of India, emptying itself into the sea somewhere near Madras. This being so, we are agreed that it will be a long time before the water flowing over the Bund reaches the sea.

The rains alter matters considerably. The Muta having filled up Karakwasla Lake, is joined by the Mula, which starts somewhere near Lonauli, flows along past Meakin's Brewery and round the corner at Kirkee, at the Sangam, and rushes over the Bund with a roar. At that time the Muta-Mula is something like a river.

Some hints have been given by a local authority who says that to know the river is to like it; but you must know it. Never go to live beside it—if you do, you may get fever and die; then your observations would be no good. But, to go at sunset and look from the Bund Bridge you would forget all unkind remarks that are made about its being insanitary, your thoughts would be drawn out to the beauty of the sun-steeped reach before you, and the exquisite light on the distant hills. Or, get to Holkar's Bridge and have a look up and down, then, if you are bent on exploring, make your way up the bank to Parrot Island. Every where the river reveals new charms.

The Muta has a character quite different from the Mula. It comes past the city, and the native makes use of it; he will wash his clothes and his body in it, and then he will drink it. As a result, the current (sluggish at the best) is hindered considerably by filth of all descriptions. In spite of all, the scene is no desolate one. Here you find a woman washing clothes; there a group—some washing pots, others drawing water for household purposes. At another spot a man at his ablutions; he will have rung out his clothes perhaps, and you will find him washing his mouth; and a little way off a herd of buffaloes being scrubbed amid the shouts of the herdsmen. At the Sangam there is about twenty feet of water and city refuse. Higher up, where it gets shallower, it is purer; the Artillery men bathe at Parrot Island. At Dapuri the water is quite clean.

There are many kinds of birds about the river—herons, plovers, sandpipers, king fishers, and occasionally wild duck. The spotted king fisher, regardless of an audience, may be seen almost anywhere at his acrobatic performances. He seldom misses the fish he has aimed for. The brahming kite does not dive, he picks up the fish near the surface of the water, dead or alive. The river of course has its rogues. The common kite and the crow are always on the look out to rob their honest neighbours. The crow is no fisher and prefers to steal. He is the terror here as he is in the Cantonment and Bazaar.

Fish are plentiful in the river. There are said to be fish of whale-like dimensions near the Bund, and occasionally enthusiastic anglers try to lure them with rod and line. The native is more successful with his drag-net, but they seldom catch large fish.

During the hot weather the river may be offensive, but in the cold season and in the rains it is grand.

Furloughs to England.

In extension of the present System of Furlough to England, a scheme is being mooted by which all N.C.Os. and men of irreproachable character, may be granted furlough for (3) three clear months in England at their own expense, after they have completed 2 or 3 years (The exact qualification of service is not yet fixed, but will not exceed three years) service in India.

Three or four ships annually would be chartered by Government as passenger vessels, each ship capable of conveying 400 men. There will be no officer in charge of those ships, nor will military discipline be enforced. Men will be permitted to leave their Corps in plain clothes and will in all respects be treated as ordinary passengers, the only restrictions being that no liquor will be sold on board nor will men be allowed to land in foreign ports.

Three months after date of arrival in England the ship will again sail for Bombay.

The return fare will not exceed Rs. 230 and it is hoped will be reduced to Rs. 200.

It is feared that it will be impossible to arrange for ships this year, but the first ship will pro bably sail about February next year.

The Commanding Officer reminded the men that with the increased pay now given, it should be an easy matter for any one to save Rs. 230 within a year.

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The Russo-Japanese War

—:o:—

The land hunger (thinly veiled for three centuries under the title of search for an ice-free port) of Russia, and the rapid expansion of Japan tended inevitably to a conflict—on the one side to brush away a troublesome obstacle, and on the other for the preservation of national existence.

With her customary disregard of treaties and conventions, Russia in 1897 seized Port Arthur, and after the Chinese war of 1900 retained possession of Manchuria; moreover, she was making rapid strides towards the absorption of Korea. This was touching Japan on a raw spot, for the acquisition of Korea has been her lodestar for nearly 1000 years; with that idea she has fought several bloody wars with China during the last 800 years, and after being deprived by Russia, France, and Germany of the legitimate fruits of her victory over China in 1894, it was impossible, if she hoped to retain her independence, for her to submit without a struggle to the occupation of Korea by Russia.

For months both countries have been preparing for war—Russia with a procrastination, corruption, waste, and want of thoroughness essentially Asiatic; Japan with a well-thought-out and definite organisation and minute attention to every detail, which though thoroughly characteristic of her, has never before been attained by any nation.

Diplomatic relations between the two powers were broken off on February 6th, and the same day Japan despatched her fleets and transports towards Korea and Port Arthur. On the 7th she occupied Masanpho, a port on the South Coast of Korea, on the 8th she commenced landing troops at Chemulpho, on the 9th one portion of the Japanese fleet sank the Russian cruisers Varyag and Koreitz at Chemulpho, the torpedo flotilla in the early hours attacked the Russian fleet lying off Port Arthur, seriously damaging the battleships Retivisan and Tsarevitch and the cruiser Pallada, and the battleships bombarded the forts from the Gulf. All this without loss to herself. On the 11th the Russian torpedo depot ship Yenisei was blown up by one of the mines she had just laid, off Dalny, with the loss of her Commander, 96 officers and men, and (it is said) the only plan in existence of the mine fields laid off Dalny and Port Arthur.

On 23rd the Japanese made a gallant but unsuccessful effort to block the entrance to Port Arthur by sinking four steamers laden with stones in the fair-way. Meanwhile a squadron had been despatched to watch Vladivostock and the Russian ships there, and the Japanese troops having occupied Seoul, the capital of Korea, commenced moving Northwards until the advanced parties on 21st encountered at Ping-yang patrols sent from the Russian forces at Anju.

Since then the Japanese have bombarded Port Arthur six times, and Vladivostock twice, the battleship Petropavlosk has been blown up with a loss of 650 officers and men, including Admiral Makaroff, the Naval Commander-in-Chief, and three destroyers have been sunk; they have occupied Wiju on the Yalu, frightened the Russians into fits by feints at landing in Helena and Pigeon Bays, South of Niuchuang, and at Takushan, east of Port Arthur, and they have landed a Division at Gensan and despatched it overland to attack the Russian left flank, but as yet they have not succeeded in destroying the Russian fleets or sealing up Port Arthur and Vladivostock.

The Russian forces on the Yalu have retired to Fenghuang cheng, and if the Vladivostock fleet has not left for Europe it is lying very low. Originally they held the mass of their troops, probably 30,000 men, in a central position along the railway from Haicheng to Mukden, but the Japanese feints at landing have now made them send large reinforcements to hold Niuchuang, and the vulnerable points on the west of the Liaotung Peninsula.

At the outbreak of hostilities the Russian fleets comprised seven battleships and eight armoured cruisers, the Japanese had six battleships and eight armoured cruisers; each side a number of protected cruisers, gun boats, destroyers and torpedo boats. Whilst the Japanese vessels are perfectly kept and handled, the Russian ships are badly found and in their naval gunnery and tactics they are infinitely inferior to their opponents.

The Russians have about 30,000 men guarding the Railways, from 20,000 to 30,000 in Port Arthur and Valdivostock, and a field army of about 50,000, which they have been daily reinforcing, so that they may now possibly have 150,000 men in Manchuria. The Japanese Army on a war footing amounts to 590,000 whilst the Russia forces in Europe and Asia dispose of about 4½ millions.

The war so far has forcibly shown the immense advantages which the command of the sea, the assumption of the initiative, a well matured plan of operations confer upon a belligerent. The hysterical protests of Russia against the treachery of Japan in attacking without first formally declaring war are simply expressions of anguished regret at having been caught napping, for there is ample evidence that for some time before February 6th, the Russian forces expected the hostilities for which they had been preparing to break out any day, and there are numerous instances in the past history of Russia and other nations where the initiative has thus been taken.

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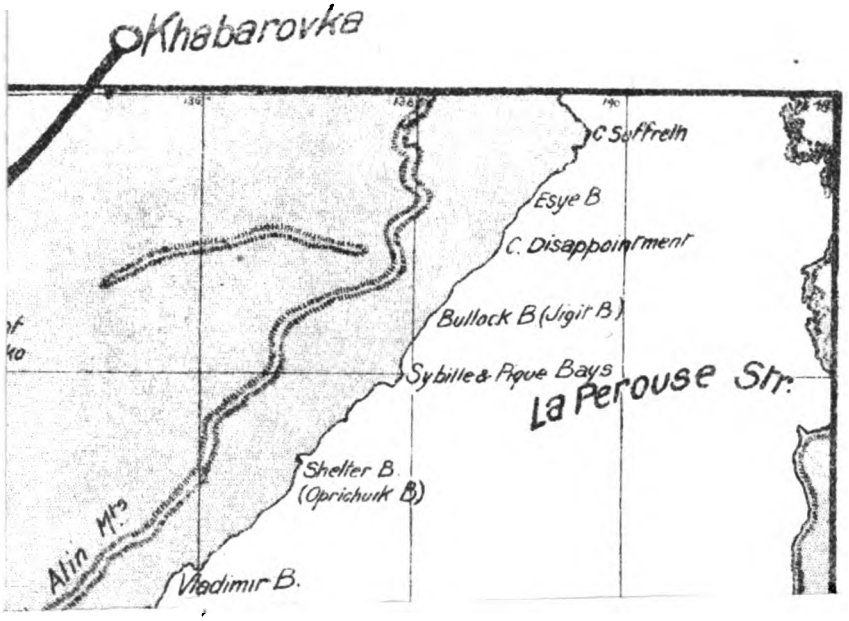
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The superior naval training and armament and the early successes of the Japanese at once gave them the command of the sea, and having that, they can choose their own time and plan for landing their expeditionary force, obliging the Russians to conform to their dispositions. It seems probable that the Japanese Divisions in Korea will be held somewhere on the line of the Yalu River, threatening an advance on Kharbin, while the main army will be disembarked in the gulf of Liaotung on the South or West of Niuchuang, or possibly at Takushan, which will isolate Port Arthur very rapidly. The Russian fleets now in the Far East though still "Fleets in being" are not likely seriously to interfere in this connection, as Admiral Togo from his flying depot in the Blonde Islands will keep a vigilant watch for any movement of the Port Arthur fleet. The Southern part of Manchuria is mountainous and wooded, and the roads are execrable. In a few weeks the rain will render the country a vast swamp, which, while heaivly handicapping guns and transport, will also hamper the movements of the Russian Cavalry and tell in favour of the Japanese Infantry. It is not likely that the Japanese will run their heads against the Russian position about Motien Pass, they will prefer to turn it and cut the Russian railway by a landing further South West. The Koreans are bitterly hostile to the Japanese, owing to their past cruelties and present bullying, but the Manchurians like them. and in both countries a large supply of excellent transport coolies can be obtained by judicious payment and treatment. Moreover, the feeling of cordiality between Japan and China engendered by common hatred of Russia renders it by no means impossible that the troops of the latter will take the part of the Japanese.

As matters now stand the Russians must retire before a Japanese advance by land; the strategic point is Kharbin, the junction of the Vladivostock and Port Arthur Railways with the main ine to Europe.

Command of the sea or Preponderance at sea, which ever is the correct phrase, gives Japan the further advantage of choosing uninterruptible lines of supply whether through flying bases, where she can land war materials or reinforcements for her forces, or by land through Korea; whereas the Russians now depend entirely upon the single line of railway to Kharbin. Whenever the Japanese have cut this line of supply the starving out of Port Arthur and Vladivostock must automatically follow in a few months.

Every effort is being made to destrcy the Russian fleet at Port Arthur and to seal up that port. Should the Japanese succeed in doing either, their fleets are free to attend to Vladivostock, or to meet the Russian Baltic Squadron, which is said to be leaving for the Far East in June. How that fleet is to get sufficient coal to carry it out there, even if we assume that the benevolent neutrality of France allows it to replenish at her ports, is not quite clear. But it is very clear that after a 15,000 miles voyage, the Russian ships will not be in very good fighting trim; nor will they have any dockyard or coaling station on which to depend for refitting.

It is idle to speculate as to what will happen next, but we do not think the Japanese, if they get so far, will advance beyond the Sungari River. It promises to be a protracted war, and one of exhaustion not only in men but money; Russia has millions of tough fighting men on whom to draw, but she has no money to spare, while Japan, whose forces number one tenth of her opponent's, has far greater pecuniary resources, and she is not like Russia hampered by corruption and honeycombed with sedition. We incline to the belief that the Japanese will content themselves with obtaining and holding the line Port Arthur, Korea, Vladivostock.

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Boxing.

PRIVATE MCNIFF *versus* ROBSON, E. LANCS. REGT.
Six Round Contest.

A goodly number assembled at Ghorpuri Barracks to witness the fight. Both men looked in excellent form:—1st Round—McNiff from the start forced the pace, and Robson got in a right swing, which floored his opponent. In a few seconds however, the latter was up, and, although stunned, rushed at Robson with right and left swings till the call of time.

2nd Round—McNiff started off with a rush again, but was checked by two smart blows which Robson got in with his left. McNiff then got in a hook hit at the stomach which dropped his man; Robson got up just as the gong went for time.

3rd Round—This round was very trying: Mc Niff rushed his man and floored him several times. At this point all thought that Robson was finished, but he showed what stuff he was made of by manfully bearing his punishment to the end of the round.

4th Round—Both men sparred up for a time: Robson rushed his man, who put him off with a counter hit on the jaw, which floored him. Robson got up at once and fought pluckily till the end of the round.

5th Round—This time both men were very eager, and went at it for all they were worth. Robson got in a right swing on McNiff's jaw, in return for which McNiff forced the fight till the finish of the round.

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6th Round—The last round was very hard, for both men were not a little exhausted. Robson had received a very bad bruise on the jaw-bone which told on him throughout the fight. At the end of this round, McNiff was declared a very easy winner.

To say the least McNiff proved himself a very plucky and hard fighter. We congratulate him on his success, and hope to see him in the ring soon again.

What the Parrot is saying.

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

THAT the Heid yin his been "John Soap" long enough.

That the Bungalow Orderly wasna lit last night.

That his spurran fell doon at Mount Gard.

That he belongs to the 9 and 3, no the British Army.

That the Gyms. will bring the Presbyterians *(perspiration)* oot o' mare Companies than yin.

That he wid like tae ken what kind o' fruit a Ghari is.

That he's share there's nae land in Egypt, its a' desert.

That he wad hae tae stan' up tae sit doon.

That the dug wis that sick it could 'na speak.

That there's bags o' civies in the Malitia.

That European cooking disna' seem the success anituciapated.

That the new pye is awfa' grand.

That it his its disadvantageouses.

That some o' thim think they ken mare aboot it than some ithers.

That the soonin parade wis a fine catch.

That the clock kin gee time.

That some folk widna' hae thought it.

That ye dinna need hans to mark time wi,' ye can dae it we yer feet.

That it didna notice ony shambrocks bein worn on the 17th.

That Gymnasties in Poona is nae joke.

That it gees in tae gettin a coarse this time.

That it feels a difference frae gane thro' wi his sash on.

That the *Alder* itus gets, it becomes the *Fi(r)mister*.

That its share they'll a' agree on this point.

That it could stick the ten meenits easier than the 'oor.

That it aye left its shedy on the flare.

That the ba' hisnae finished stopping yet.

Gymnastic instructor (drilling recruits) "Hopping on the right and left foot alternately."

Recruit—"I want to fall out."

G. I.—"What's wrong with you?"

Recruit—"Well I don't mind hopping for ten minutes, but I can't do it for all eternity."

Home and Depot Notes.

Drum-Major John Rattray, Penicuik, has received official notice from the War Office that His Majesty the King had been pleased to approve of the grant of an annuity of £10, together with a silver medal, as a reward for his long and highly meritorious service, including the Crimean, Indian Mutiny, and Umbeyla campaigns—the annuity to date from the 24th December, 1903. Drum-Major Rattray enlisted in the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders in 1846, and eight years afterwards embarked with his battalion for the Crimea, where the regiment was a unit of the Highland Brigade under Sir Colin Campbell. He was promoted to be Drum-Major during the campaign, and at the close of it he returned with his regiment to England. A month later (15th July, 1856) three companies of the regiment embarked at Portsmouth for China, but at the Cape countermanding orders for India were received and they went thither. Drum-Major Rattray taking part in the Relief of Lucknow and twelve minor engagements. In 1862-63 he took part in the Umbeyla Campaign, where the British troops encountered the Swat tribesmen. He retired from the army in 1868, and for the next thirty-one years found civil employment in Valleyfield Mills, retiring finally four years ago. The above medal is the sixth Army medal which has been conferred upon him, together with six clasps.

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From the Stirling Sentinel:—Mr. Ainsworth asked the Secretary for War the other day whether he was aware that the 1st Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders had not been quartered in Scotlond for some years, and that since their return from South Africa they had been quartered at Longmoor, Aldershot; and whether he would arrange that this battalion might be quartered in that portion of the United Kingdom to which it belonged. Mr. Arnold-Foster—The h n. member has been misinformed. This battalion was quartered at Edinburgh from March, 1892, to June, 1894, and at Glasgow from September, 1896, to August, 1898. Considering that there are only three stations in Scotland for ten Scottish regiments, the battalion would appear to have a fair share of home service in Scotland.

An order has just been issued from Home District headquarters directing the attention of officers commanding infantry battalions, regulars, Militia, and Volunteers, to the recent Army Order respecting the equipment of transport sergeants, bandsmen, drummers, buglers, pipers, and pioneers, and requiring immediate action to be taken to adjust present equipment to the new conditions. By the new Order, transport sergeants will carry

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rifles slung across their left shoulders, and wear sword-bayonets and bandoliers; bandsmen, except those of the Foot Guards, will be equipped like the rank and file, but the rifle will not be carried at the same time as a musical instrument; all drummers and buglers will be equipped like the rank and file, but with one pouch only; pipers of the Scots Guards and Highland regiments will be equipped with a dirk and Webbly pistol; and pioneers, including those of the Guards, will be equipped like drummers and buglers of line and rifle regiments.

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Sergeant Major Hutton of the 91st has been selected to attend the class of Adjutants and Sergeant Majors, which has assembled at the Headquarter Gymnasium, Aldershot, for a short term of instruction.

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Private John Cowie, whose death occurred during the month, was one of the best known exponents of the art of swimming in Scotland. Born in Edinburgh 54 years ago, Cowie, after having spent some years in the capital, came to Glasgow. It was on the Clyde that he made a name for himself as a swimmer. Previous to the introduction of public baths in Glasgow, all swimming galas were held on the upper reaches of the Clyde. On a summer's afternoon thousands of spectators would gather on the banks of the Clyde to witness the swimming exhibition, in which the deceased played a prominent part. On the Clyde Cowie won many prizes, including the championship of Scotland for three years in succession – 1874, 1875, 1876. In 1884 Cowie enlisted in the 1st Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. While in Afghanistan he was presented with a watch for faithful nursing, and received also testimonials for saving life. After leaving the army Cowie returned to Glasgow with an excellent character from the Captain of his Company. Afterwards he held important positions in Glasgow. He attended one of the turnstiles at the late Glasgow International Exhibition, Kelvingrove.

For some time past Cowie was employed as night watchman at the Thistle Chemical Company's works, Easterhouse. He left home one evening as usual, and next morning the workers coming in to resume their duties were surprised to miss the watchman from his usual place. At once they set about making a search, and at a little burn that runs through the works they found Cowie's body lying face downwards.

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As a tribute to the late Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces from 1856 to 1895, sixty minute guns were fired from the new guns at Stirling Castle, on the day of his burial. The firing party consisted of one Officer, one Sergeant, and 14 N.C.O.s and men from Leith Fort.

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Death of a Crimean Veteran—At Blackburn, Alexander Douglas died at the advanced age of 77 years. Mr. Douglas was born at Winchburgh, and worked eight years a miner in Armadale and Bathgate. He joined the 79th (Camerons) in June, 1852, and the outbreak of the Crimean War was transferred to the 93rd Highlanders. He was at the battle of Alma, and was one of the "Thin Red Line," and also at the siege of Sebastopol. Douglas took part in quelling the Indian Mutiny. After retiring from the Army, he joined the Dundee Constabulary, and thereafter joined the West Lothian Constabulary.

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The second concert in aid of the benevolent fund of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders' Association has been given in the Gymnasium, Stirling Castle. The concert was got up by Mr. George Stevens, and the singers included Misses Cameron and B. Soutar, and Messrs. Hill and Stevens. Mr. H. Payton contributed banjo selections, and Dennison's band provided orchestral music, Colonel Hunt proposed the votes of thanks.

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A Committee has now been appointed to carry out the decentralisation proposals of the War Office. These proposals contemplate the grouping of the existing regimental districts by fours into "brigade districts," each commanded by a Colonel. Of these brigade districts there will be nineteen, and these are to be grouped into seven "administrative districts," each commanded by a Major-General. Thus, for administrative purposes, England will be divided into five districts, Scotland will be a sixth, and Ireland a seventh.

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Colour Sergeant Lawrie, at present with the 1st Battalion at Aldershot, has been appointed Sergt.-Instructor at Lennoxtown. He takes up duty in a short time in succession to Sergt.-Instructor Stewart, who is to join the colours with the 1st Battalion.

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About fifty couples were present at the dance given by the Stirling Castle Dance Club. Private McGregor acted as president of the dance, and Private R. Duncan as Master of Ceremonies. The music was supplied by Dennison's Band. During the evening a programme of songs was submitted, and Private McGregor and Drummer Madigan "did" the Cake Walk.

During the Boer war a young countryman went to a recruiting office to enlist in the army. On being examined by the doctor he was informed that he was unfit for service owing to his bad teeth. The would-be recruit, on learning of his disqualification, growled—"Guid gracious! A'm wantin' tae fecht the Boers; no' tae eat them."

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Sergeants' Mess Notes.

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Colour Sergeant Tyndall has rejoined from furlough during the month. He left us in Calcutta for a six months furlough, but has returned after four months at Home.

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Sergeant Brash, who has been officiating Pay Sergeant of "B" Company for some time, has now been appointed Pay Sergeant of "D," the colours of that company being vacant owing to Colour Sergeant Durnan's departure.

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The Sergeants detailed to undergo the course of instruction in Pay Sergeants' duties are—Sergeants Stobie, "A" Company, Gibb, "B" Company, McQueen, "C" Company, Ferrier, "D" Company, McCrae, "E" Company, White, "F" Company, Milne, "G" Company, and Edgar, "H."

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Sergeant S. Hayward, who is now acting as instructor to the Naini Tal Volunteer Rifles, having been three months extra regimentally employed, is transferred to the Punjab Unattached List.

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Sergeant R. Glass embarked for Home on Furlough for six months on the 26th February, and Sergeant Norrie on the 15th of this month. We wish them a pleasant time during their stay at home.

Sergeant Ogg has also obtained a six months' furlough, Mrs. Ogg having been ordered a change of air.

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Sergeant Atkinson, who has been Signalling Sergeant of the Battalion since Durnan was promoted, has gone home, having been invalided.

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Lance Sergeant Tawse has been in charge of the Signallers during the absence of Atkinson, and, judging from the report on their work at the recent inspection, the greatest credit is due to him.

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Among the recent promotions, the mess members places have been filled up again. We have to welcome into the mess this month, Lance Sergeants Stewart, Harvey, Newall, Dougall, and McCallum.

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Sergeant Mahoney has been appointed Provost Sergeant, which place became vacant on Sergeant Ogg's departure for Home.

Sergeants' Quadrille Party.

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The Sergeants gave a "Quadrille Party," since their arrival in the new station, on the 16th March. Invitations were issued with true Highland hospitality to all their friends in Poona, with the gratifying result that when the engagement was at its height, over 250 happy faces were counted in the commodious and profusely decorated No. 3 Bungalow of the mounted Infantry Lines. The floor was in a condition to satisfy the most fastidious dancer, the dances were numerous, varied and well assorted, and the supper excellent. If anything really *did* seem some what detractive in the participation of this otherwise elysian night, may we whisper that it was the music? Dancing commenced at 9-30 p.m. and did not finish till nearly eight hours afterwards. The majority of the officers of the Battalion were present, amongst whom we were pleased to see Colonel and Mrs. Stanley Paterson, also another couple who were, at one time, sharers in previous similar scenes with us, viz:—Colonel and Mrs. Grant. Great credit and many thanks are due to those who assisted in attaining such a satisfactory reward for their efforts, and especially to Pioneer Sergeant Snowdon, the courteous and proficient master of ceremonies, to whom we are informed the most of the work was allotted in connection with the preparations for the enjoyable night. A dance programme is appended.

1 Waltz.	12 Waltz.
2 Quadrilles.	13 Barn Dance.
3 Barn Dance.	74 Lancers.
4 Lancers.	15 Highland Schottische
5 Waltz.	16 Quadrilles.
6 D'Alberts.	17 Veleta Waltz.
7 HighlandSchottische.	18 Schottische.
8 La Veleta.	19 D'Alberts.
9 Lancers	20 Waltz.
10 Reel.	21 Lancers.
11 Snow Waltz.	22 Circassian Circle.
Supper.	God Save the King.

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Inter-Company Football League.

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Once again the clock is lost and won, the winners this year being "D" Company, with the creditable total of 33 points for 14 matches played, only losing one match throughout the Tournament and drawing three. The trophy and medals were presented to "D" Company by Mr. Forbes, who congratulated them on their success. This is the first time since the Tournament was instituted that "D" Company have won the trophy. "B" Company, who were for a short period during the struggle among the favourites for the trophy, have finished in the lowly position

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of the league with four points for 13 matches. This season has not been productive of any class football, players being inclined to wilfully infringe the rules of the game, which causes endless and useless trouble to the Referee. The duties of a Referee are always more or less onerous, and his laudable efforts in confining his decision on particularly knotty points to the latest "Home Rules" were productive, we regret to notice, of noisy remarks from not a few of the spectators, which were certainly of a defamatory character. Especially has this been so during the late league, and we should like to seize this opportune moment to remind both players and spectators that Referees are only human like themselves, and may unwittingly at sometime or other give palbably wrong decisions, which narrow-minded people are not slow in construing into the favouring of one team or the other.

The following are accounts of matches played during the month of March, 1904.

LEAGUE.

"F" Company *v.* "A" Company—*1st March.* During the first half "B" with a strong wind behind them did most of the pressing. Close on the interval they managed to obtain the lead from a scrimmage at the goal mouth. Resuming, "A" soon become aggressive, scoring within a few minutes, thus equalising. Towards the end A" again scored, thus the game ended in favour of "A" Company by two goals to one

"H" Company *v.* "B" Company—*2nd March.* Soon after the start "H" scored, and, withstanding the attacks of "B," were leading at half time by one goal to nil. They did still better in the concluding portion, for, without a response from "B," they put on three further points and won easily by four goals to nil.

"B" Company *v.* "E" Company—*10th March.* "B" kicked off and "E" were soon pressing. "B's" custodian, however, kept his charge intact for a time, but before the interval "G" had registered two goals. In the second half the exchanges were very even, and there being no further scoring, the game ended in favour of "E" by two goals to nil.

"A" Company *v.* "E" Company—*11th March.* Play was very even throughout, but try all they knew, neither side could accomplish anything of a definite character, and a pointless draw was the result.

"G" Company *v.* "A" Company—*12th March.* "A" failing to turn out the points were awarded to "G" Company.

"E" Company *v.* "H" Company—*14th March.* Following in the wake of "A," "H" also failed to present a team and "F" benefitted by two points.

"A" Company *v.* "H" Company—*15th March.* "H" vigorously attacked and in the first half had the advantage, leading at half time by two goals. On changing ends the play became very exciting, both teams played hard, and each scored two points, which left "H" winners by four goals to two.

"C" Company *v.* "G" Company—*16th March.* "C" pressed practically throughout the whole game, still only two goals separated the two teams, on the call of time, which was mainly owing to the poor shooting of "C" Company's forwards and the good back defence of "G." Result, "C" Company two goals, "G" Company nil.

"D" Company *v.* "F" Company—*19th March.* More than usual interest was taken in the meeting of these two teams, owing to the fact that the trophy and medals were to be presented to the former ("D" Company) who had already won the same.

About twenty minutes from the start "D's" forwards, by some clever passing, brought the ball close to their opponents goal, and a smart shot by McLay went home. "D" continued to press right to the interval but could not score further, and the teams crossed over with "D" leading by a goal to nil.

The second half was only a few minutes old when Pollock augmented "D" Company's score. "F" made hard but abortive attempts to reduce their adversaries' lead, but failed to do so, and the whistle sounded with the scores as follows:—"D" Company two goals, "F" Company nil.

The following is the team that played for "D" Company throughout the Tournament:—

Coyle.
Reid. Mowatt.
McLaren. McMaster Grady.
McLay. Galbraith. Houston. Blake. Pollock.

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE, ENDING MARCH, 1904.

Order.	Company.	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	GOALS. For.	GOALS. Against.	Points.
1	"D"	14	10	3	1	24	5	33
2	"E"	13	8	2	3	20	12	18
3	"C"	14	8	2	4	18	10	18
3	"G"	13	6	2	5	10	13	14
5	"F"	14	3	7	4	8	11	13
6	"A"	14	4	2	8	11	20	10
7	"H"	13	3	2	8	9	14	8
8	"B"	13	1	2	10	6	24	4

WINNERS OF THE FOOTBALL CLOCK.

1888-89 . .	"F" Company.
1889-90 . .	"H" "
1890-91 . .	"A" "

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1891-92	. .	"C" Company.
1892-93	. .	"G" ,,
1893-94	. .	"G" ,,
1894-95	. .	"B" ,,
1895-96	. .	"A" ,,
1896-97	. .	"E" ,,
1897-98	. .	"F" ,,
1898-99	. .	"F" ,,
1899-1900	. .	"G" ,,
1900-01	. .	"B" ,,
1901-02	. .	"G" ,,
1902-03	. .	"C" ,,
1903-04	. .	"D" ,,

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Odd Bits by the Way

It is related of one of "G" Company in a Scotch Battalion during their *stay* in Hong Kong, (it may have been in the 91st) when butter was a most expensive luxury, that one day, desirous of purchasing three cents worth (about a penny worth) he approached the butter wallah, and called for his order; but on receiving it, the quantity was so small that he made up his mind to return it, doing so with the following remark:

"Does she ca' that a pennyworth o' butter!"

The Salesman replying in the affirmative, Dougal says:

"She'll na tak' it; it's na worth tuppence!"

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The same Dougal was one day emerging from his room, when a N.C.O. of his Company, passing, asked him, "Is the Orderly Sergeant in?" He replied "Na, he's no' in ennu, but he was in afore he gaed oot!"

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One Company in a Home Battalion had only two washer-women. A Mrs. L did one half, and a Mrs. D— did the other; it appears that Mrs. L – did all the drawing and sewing on of buttons required, while Mrs. D— didn't. A certain man of the Company whom Mrs. D – washed for, became much annoyed at the sight of shirts wanting buttons, and his chum's put on all right, and resolved on giving her a hint that he required buttons sewn on. So he took the lid off his blacking tin, bored two holes in the centre of it, and sewed it on to his shirt where a button was off. On Friday night he happened to be out when the washing was brought round, but on his return found his bundle laid on his cot. Eagerly opening the bundle to see if the button was sewn on, he found instead his blacking-tin lid there, with a button-hole made large enough to suit it.

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Colonel Steele of the Strathconas was sitting one afternoon on the stoop of the village hotel, at one of the innumerable "fonteins" captured in Roberts' advance. His Stetson hat was slouched over his eyes, his heels were at an angle of ninety degrees, and he was sucking sombrely at a strong briar-root pipe. A fussy little red-faced British major came up and said:

"Colonel Steele, I presume?"

"That's me."

"Well, Colonel, I encountered a patrol of your men down the line, and, blawst me, they didn't salute."

The Colonel drew his pipe from his mouth for a minute. Six feet two, big-hearted, good natured, man's-a-man-for-a'-that, looked down quizzically at five foot eight, angry, perspiring, and consequential, and drawled:

"Didn't salute you, eh? Why, the confounded rogues won't salute ME."

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Thrilling Story of an Old 93rd Man.

The ranks of the Crimean veterans are now, alas! sadly thinned, and there remain among us but a few survivors of that gallant host who withstood the Muscovite hordes in the Crimea. Still fewer are the number of "Thin Red Line" heroes left, and it will therefore doubtless interest many to hear the story of that great military event, as told by one who "stood like a rock" along with his comrades in face of the Russian onslaught in front of Balaklava. Corporal John Macdonald, late of the 93rd Highlanders, whose story we have much pleasure in giving, is a typical soldier of the old school, keen-eyed, erect, and active despite his years. The representative of "The Highland News" found him in his house at No. 2 Alexandra Buildings some weeks ago, and as the old soldier, with pardonable pride, showed his medals and clasps his memory seemed to revert to the stirring times when he helped to uphold the military prestige of his country on many a hardfought field.

"There are not many of us left now," said the old soldier, as, with a far-off look in his eye, he seemed to summon up in memory his gallant comrades who have crossed the frontier of an "unknown country." "Sergeant Austin Ballifeary, and myself," he continued "are the only two 'Thin Red Line' survivors in Inverness. There were several in town, but we have both seen them pass away one by one until now we two alone of that once stalwart host are left to do 'sentry-go' on the banks of the Ness. Of my career as a soldier I haven't much to say that will interest the general public, I daresay, beyond the fact that like the remainder of my comrades, I have in my time passed through many strange and stirring adventures amid Crimean snows or under the scorching sun of India, or what we soldiers call 'the Bengal blanket.'

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"I was born in the parish of Dores in the year 1882, and in early life, like the majority of my youthful fellow-countrymen of that day, I longed for 'wild war's dread alarms,' and in order to satisfy that yearning I decided to cast in my lot with that gallant corps whose record is perhaps one of the most glorious in the annals of British soldiery the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, familiarly known as 'The Old Rory.' On the 2nd of February, 1850, I accepted the Queen's shilling, and served with the regiment on home service till February, 1854, when the gathering cloud in the East necessitated our embarkation for Malta, and from thence to Turkey. Arriving at Constantinople, we were joined by the other two regiments which formed the Highland Brigade, viz., the Black Watch and Camerons.

"From there we embarked for Varna, on the Black Sea. We were ordered to Silistria, and proceeded on our march a considerable distance, when we were overtaken by cholera, and had to retrace our steps, encamping above the Black Sea (August, 1854). In September of that year we embarked for the Crimea, landed at Eupotoria on the 14th, and six days later fought the ever-memorable Battle of Alma. The carnage of that day I will never forget, but history has recorded it, and I need scarcely linger on it. We remained there a few days burying the dead, and I need hardly say that,

> Slowly and sadly we laid them down
> From the field of their fame fresh and gory,
> We raised not a stone, and we carved not a line,
> But we left them alone in their glory.

"After performing this sad duty the Highland Brigade, commenced a flank march on Balaklava. On arriving there the other two regiments were sent up to Sebastopol, while we were ordered to encamp.

"The achievements of British arms on the 26th October, 1854, were perhaps the most glorious ever recorded in the history of this country, and as one who has had the honour of taking a humble part on that great day, I trust I will not be accused of egotism in thus referring to it. The glorious charges of the Light and Heavy Brigades and the gallant stand of 'The Thin Red Line' all took place within a short distance and brief space of one another.

"I remember that day as if it were but yesterday. The words of the old Brigadier still ring in my ears as we were drawn up in line, 'Highlanders, there is no retreat here, and if you are to die here I will die with you.' The Russian cavalry, thousands upon thousands strong, dashed upon us; the expected reinforcements had not come up; and with one united heart in response to the command of our gallant commander, and true to the traditions of the race from which we sprung, we resolved to die where we stood. In compliance with the Brigadier's order, we reserved our fire, and it was not until they were within about six hundred yards that we opened on them, and those volleys made them reel. Again another and another and yet another until something like seven volleys were fired into them in quick succession, carrying death and terror into their ranks. At this stage they tried a movement by passing our right flank. The officer in charge of the Grenadier Company (Captain Ross) instantly saw the manœuvre, and checked it. In a twinkling they turned right-about, 'opened files right and left,' and took to their heels a mighty sight quicker than they charged down upon us, leaving the ground strewn with horses and men, the shrieks and groans of the latter making the air hideous and sounding like a pandemonium. Reinforcements then came up and remained with the regiment on the field all night. As I have already indicated, there was fighting going on through the valley that day, so that with the din and confusion, and having my own particular part to perform, you will understand that I was unable to mark the movements of the other squadrons, battalions, and divisions, all of whom had their work cut out for them. All I know is that we had our part to perform, and if for a moment we had flinched in the face of the enemy we should have all been instantly cut down.

"There were many striking incidents during the fight, but to one only will I refer. To my left was Private Alexander Fraser, of the Merkinch. A round shot passed between us and struck Sergeant Mackay (Tain), who was in the rear, in the leg. Glancing quickly round, I saw Mackay on the ground. 'What's the matter, sergeant?' I asked. 'Not much, Jack,' said the gallant fellow with a suppressed groan, 'my leg's away.'

"After dusk on that dreadful day Sir Colin asked for forty Volunteers, not exactly for a 'forlorn hope,' but for quite as perilous an undertaking—to form a chain of sentries in front of the enemy so as to watch their movements, with orders to keep their ground, if molested, as long as they could. The first to step out was Sergeant James Macpherson, an Aberdeenshire man, afterwards granted a commission. I was the second to volunteer, and among others that I knew well were Privates Andrew and John Macdonald, from the Isle of Skye. As we marched—or rather crept—out that night into the darkness beyond, I can assure you that I, for one, never expected to return to the lines again. Although there was no snow on the ground, it was one of the coldest nights I ever remember having felt, the frost being most intense. We got as near the

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Russian encampment as possible, and down we flopped like a lot of partridges, though by no means so closely huddled, there being many yards between each of us. I shudder yet as I think of it. Fear was unknown among the little band, but then the intense cold, the deadly silence, and the awful monotony of the affair, were simply unbearable. There we lay in the cold midnight air as motionless as those who a few hours before fell in battle, whose lifeless forms, stark and stiff, studded the plain. Silently the myriad stars from the vault above looked down on us, and as mutely we looked up to them, knowing that our distant mountain home was also neath their gaze. If we could only have been permitted to sing a snatch of some Gaelic melody to wile away the time, or had we been allowed to get up and dance a few steps of the Highland Fling to keep our frozen limbs in circulation, or had we even had a chance of lighting our 'clay cutties' in order to keep up steam, matters would have been very much better. The pangs of hunger were also felt by us, for so hurriedly were we called to arms in the morning that we were not permitted to get our rations, and the result was that the majority of us had to do our fighting and watching on empty stomachs. The enemy remained quiet during the night, and nothing extraordinary happened, so that we were able to join our regiment before daybreak by coming in on the right and left flanks. The regiment then received orders to entrench itself. After getting a glass of rum and a couple of hard biscuits each, those of us who had volunteered got a pick and shovel, with orders to 'wire in' as hard as we could. It was perhaps the best thing that could have happened to us, for we soon got thawed out after our experience of the previous night, and were ere long in a boiling sweat, although we were stripped to the kilt and shirt.

"The Camerons and Black Watch entrenched themselves on the heights above us, and a battery of guns and men belonging to the Naval Brigade came up from Balaklava and remained with us all the winter. Nothing more happend at this place in the way of fighting except one night alarm, although we were ever on the look-out for an attack. It was always a habit of Sir Colin's to make the regiment 'stand to arms' an hour before daybreak. The reveille was the usual one ("Johnnie Cope,") but the Russians got to know it, and it had to be changed. There was also an order that there should be a wing of the regiment out all night alternately.

"Ah! Sir Colin was a fine fellow, a homely veteran. He was just like one of ourselves, and was always on the move through the encampment chatting and making himself at home with the men. There wasn't a man in the 93rd that would not have laid down his life for the old Brigadier. He was very fond of a smoke, and if he saw a man with a well seasoned pipe—the older the better—he would go up to him and say, 'Give me a draw.' When he returned the pipe it was usually with nothing but the 'dottle' in the bottom.

"A complaint was made to him by the Commissary General on one occasion that he was losing rum, and that he could not account for it, and he asked for more sentries. The reply he got from Sir Colin was, 'Oh, yes! you can have more sentries certainly if you wish them; but remember this, that the more sentries you'll have the more rum you'll lose, for if there's any drink on the face of this earth my men will have it.'

"I remember I was on outpost duty one bitterly cold night when the snow was lying well nigh knee-deep. Sir Colin was taking his rounds, when, overtaken by fatigue, he threw himself down in below a big gun and wrapped himself in a blanket he found there. In a short time the owner of the blanket, on getting off duty, came along, and observing the figure wrapped up in it, shoved out his foot not too gently, at the same time saying, 'Get up, that's my blanket.' 'Hoot! toot! man,' came Sir Colin's voice from beneath its folds, 'it'll hold the two of us.' I need hardly say that the man was a little put out on finding who he had kicked.

"In the early spring we went up to Sebastopol, and remained there for some time doing duty in the trenches. Sir Colin left us here, and sad was the parting. He, however, returned again as second in command. We were ordered from Sebastopol to Camp Kamara, and remained there until the fall of Sebastopol along with the remainder of the Brigade. We marched from there and took part in the fall, and again returned to our encampment. The Brigade was under the command of Colonel Duncan Cameron, of the Black Watch.

"Rations! What kind of rations had we during the campaign? Well, now, it was a case of getting a chunk of salt beef in the one hand in the morning, a few green coffee beans in the other, with a few sea biscuits as hard as flint thrown in, and make the best of it—live or die. We were not very particular about the cooking, you may depend upon it—simply lighting a fire 'mid the snow where we had a chance, and getting the victuals have a look at it. I think it was little wonder that a great number of the young fellows drafted out to us succumbed to the hardships and privations.

"We remained in Camp Kamara until we were ordered home. On arrival at Aldershot we were

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received by Her Majesty, and a ragged-looking spectacle we presented, you may be sure, as well as sadly reduced in numbers. They sent us to the Heights of Dover, where we were stationed under canvas, each man with only a bunch of straw under him, and we didn't get as much as a pint of beer unless we paid for it. Kit inspection was ordered, and an inventory of articles deficient and not fit for service taken. The result was that we had to pay for renewals, which left us in debt for some time. All we got gratis were a redcoat, buff jacket, kilt, and shoes. We remained in Dover until such time as we were ordered to China. But of this anon," said the old hero as he rose from his seat and squared his shoulders. "I'll give you the dreadful tale of the Indian Mutiny on another occasion."

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Ninety-third Calendar for May, 1904.

1 S. Left Table Bay for England 1814. Est. reduced to 33 Officers 59 Sergeants, 23 Drummers and Pipers, 40 Corporals and 480 Privates, 1872.
2 M. Lieut.-Col. Alexander Halkett to 10th Foot, 1810. "B" Company win Tug-of-war Shield, 1901.
3 Tu. George Johnstone, Lieut.-Col., 1810. Emb. at Balaklava on board *Sphynx* and *Nemours* for expedition to Kertheh and Yenikale (cancelled), 1855
4 W.
5 Th. Battle of Bareilly, 1858. 1 man killed.
6 F "Big Sam" (Sergeant Samuel McDonald) d., 1802; he was 6 ft. 10 in. height, and measured 48 round chest; buried in the Strangers' Cemetery, Guernsey. Arrd. Spithead from West Indies, 1834 (strength 371 N. C.O's and men), Gallipoli to to Scutari, 1854. Terrific hailstorm at Nowshera, 1897; hailstones 4½ in. in circumference.
7 S. Cherat summer detachment left Nowshera, 1896.
8 S. Disembarked Ramsgate from West Indies, 1834, to Canterbury. "G" Company win Physical Drill Shield, 1901.
9 M.
10 Tu. Final Cricket Clock Tournament, Nowshera, 1897 (1st day).
11 W. Final Cricket Clock Tournament, 1897, "B" Company winners.
12 Th. Edinburgh to Portsmouth on board *Himalaya* 1873.
13 F. "B" and "H" Companies (summer detachment) to Cherat, 1897.
14 S. Arrd. Portsmouth from Granton, 1873, to Aldershot. Arrived Spithead from America, 1815; ordered to Cork.
15 S Arrived Aldershot, 1873.
16 M. Re-inforced at Canterbury by Depot Companies, 1834,
17 Tu. Dublin for the Curragh, 1834.
18 W. Weedon for N. of England by detachments, 1835 Head-quarters, Blackburn.
19 Th. Weedon for N. of England, 1835.
20 F.
21 S.
22 S. Est. augmented to 800 rank and file, 1843. Again embark (ships *Sphynx* and *Stromboli*) for expedition to Gulf of Kerth, 1855. New Colours presented at at Dover by H.R. H. the Duke of Cambridge, 1857.
23 M.
24 Tu. Exchange Draft (150 strong) arrived from South Africa, 1902.
25 W.
26 Th.
27 F. Weedon to N. of England, 1835.
28 S. Disembarked, Cork, 1815, to Birr; re-inforced following December, by draft from reduced 2nd Battalion.
29 S.
30 M. Maj.-Genl. Sir John Cameron, K.C.B., Colonel to 9th Foot, 1833.
31 Tu. Lt.-Genl. Sir Jasper Nicolls, K.C.B., Colonel 1833.

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PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant :—No. 5945, Lance Sergeant A. McCrae, "E" Company, dated 24th February, 1904.
To be acting Sergeant with Pay of Rank :—No. 5838, Lance Sergeant C. Fraser, "F" Company, dated 24th February, 1904.
To be Corporals :—No. No. 4359, Lance Corporal F. Bracey, "F" Company, dated 20th January 1904. No. 8200, Lance Corporal G. D. McIntosh, "G" Company, dated 24th February, 1904.

PAY OF RANK.

To be paid Lance Sergeants :—No. 5357, Corporal J. Stewart, "H" Company, dated 14th January, 1904. No. 7764, Corporal E. G. Harvey, "A" Company, dated 10th February 1904. No. 4293, Corporal D. G. Newall, "D" Company, dated 24th February, 1904.
To be Acting Lance Sergeants with Pay of Rank :—No. 6386 Corporal J. Dougall, "G" Company, dated 24th February 1904. No. 6569, Corporal D. McCallum, "A" Company, dated 24th February, 1904.
To be paid Lance Corporals :—No. 8291, Lance Corporal G. Erskin, "F" Company, dated 20th January, 1904. No. 5031, Lance Corporal R. McKay, "A" Company, dated 24th February, 1904.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Pay Sergeant of "D" Company :—No. 5864 Ser-Sergeant J. Brash, "C" Company.
To be Band Corporal :—No. 3927 Corporal W. Walker, "A" Company.
To be Bandsman :—No. 5134 Private R. Lightbody, "F" Company.
To be Acting Drummers :—

No. 8986	Private	F. Elton,	"B" Company.
,, 7387	,,	C. Urquhart	"D" ,,
,, 6902	,,	J. Shirby,	"F" ,,

At 2d. GOOD CONDUCT PAY.
"A" Company.
No. 5171 Private J. Coutts.

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"C" Company.
No. 5008 Private J. Young.
"E" Company.
No. 6495 Private T. Ross.
"G" Company.
No. 6486 Bandsman F. Noble.
"H" Company.
No. 6842 Private D. McKay.

At 1d.

"A" Company.
No. 7938 Private T. Stewart
"B" Company.
No. 7212 Private W. Fraser.
"C" Company.
No. 8063 Pte. E. Flynn. | No. 7392 Pte. G. Hay.
No. 7155 Private D. Curran.
"D" Company.
No. 5892 Drummer J. Adams.
"E" Company.
No. 8284 Private G. McIntosh.
"F" Company.

No. 4801	Pte.	W. Anderson	No. 8291	L. C. G.	Erskine.
,, 6200	,,	J. L. Lumsden.	,, 6549	Pte. P. J.	Kavanagh
,, 5933	,,	A Robertson.	,, 5712	,,	W. Murnin.

No. 6538 Private W. Balfour.
"G" Company

No. 7106	Pte.	J. Douglas.	No 5397	Pte.	R. Munro.
,, 9159	,,	A. Buckley.	,, 4842	,,	J. Marshall.
,, 6064	,,	A. Mulholland	,, 5327	,,	H. West.

No. 7655 Private H. Bell.
"H" Company.
No. 6251 Pte. P. Beck. | No. 6387 Pte. H. Reeves.
No. 6205 Private J. McArthur.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted 2nd Class Certificates of Education :—

No. 7455	Corporal	G. Polson	"H"	Company.
,, 7703	Lance Corporal	D. Stirling	"H"	,,
,, 7159	,,	D. McBride	"C"	,,
,, 7007	,,	D. Gibson	"F"	,,
,, 5716	Private	T. McGeechan	"F"	,,
,, 7803	,,	H. Bremner	"H"	,,
,, 9159	,,	A. Buckley	"G"	,,
,, 7567	,,	A. Dicker	"H"	,,
,, 9054	Boy	H. McLachlan	"D"	,,

Granted 3rd Class Certificates of Education ;—

No. 6009	Lance Corporal	D. Birrell	"E"	,,
,, 7529	,,	A. Wilson	"H"	,,
,, 7757	,,	W. Bell	"A"	,,
,, 5546	,,	J. McLachlan	"G"	,,
,, 4663	Private	W. Glass	"B"	,,
,, 6724	,,	T. McDonald	"H"	,,
,, 8208	,,	Stirling	"D"	,,

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete Twenty-one years' Service :—

No. 5180	Sergeant	W. Cockburn	"G"	Company.
,, 7564	Pioneer Sergt.	J. H. Snowdon	"G"	,,
,, 4413	Private	G. Fraser	"B"	,,
,, 4698	,,	J. McIntyre	"H"	,,
,, 4593	,,	W. Livingston	"H"	,,
,, 4595	,,	J. Dolan	"B"	,,
,, 4696	Lance Corporal	B. Harris	"B"	,,

To complete Twelve Years' Service :—

No. 6014	Private	A. Baxter	"F"	,,
,, 5762	,,	J. McEachern	"F"	,,
,, 7840	,,	D. McIntosh	"E"	,,

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

No. 9393 has been allotted to Private William Hill, "C" Company.

INTER-COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 4058	Sergeant	J. Buchanan	"F"	to	"G"	Company.
,, 3927	Corporal	W. Walker	"A"	,,	"G"	,,
,, 8200	,,	G. D. McIntosh	"G"	,,	"D"	,,
,, 5550	,,	F. Risdon	"B"	,,	"F"	,,
No. 8909	Drummer	W. McLean	"G"	ot	"A"	Company.
,, 6746	Private	J. Wright	"G"	,,	"E"	,,
,, 5577	,,	J. Deloughry	"D"	,,	"G"	,,

TROOPING CHANGES.

Embarked for England on the H. T. "Plassey" on the 8th March, 1904.
Invalided.

No. 5256	Sergeant	T. Atkinson	"D"	Company.
,, 6573	Private	K. McLeod	"B"	,,
,, 9278	,,	J. Murray	"B"	,,
,, 7444	,,	R. McKinnel	"E"	,,
,, 7628	,,	J. Macey	"F"	,,
,, 4092	,,	J. White	"C"	,,

Furlough.

No. 4841	Sergeant	J. Ogg	"H"	Company.

Embarked for England on the H. T. "Sicilia" on the 15th March, 1904.
Discharged.

No. 5915	Private	T. Black	"F"	Company.
,, 7846	,,	D. Anderson	"A"	,,

Transfer to Army Reserve.
No. 5667 Private A. Goddard "E" Company.
Invalids.

No. 6844	Private	R. Wright	"C"	Company.
,, 8953	,,	W. Cairney	"G"	,,
,, 7068	,,	J. Penman	"A"	,,
,, 7379	,,	A. Lockhart	"A"	,,
,, 7577	,,	A. Duff	"F"	,,
,, 7622	,,	T. King	"A"	,,
,, 6782	,,	J. Rogan	"C"	,,

Furlough.
No. 4805 Sergeant W. Norrie, "F" Company.

FURLOUGHS.

No. 6213	Lance Corporal	A. Campbell	4-4 to 4-6-04.
,, 5408	Corporal	A. Ewing	1-4 to 31-5-04.
,, 5118	Lance Corporal	D. McLean	1-4 to 31-5-04.
,, 5390	Corporal	A. Stewart	1-4 to 31-5-04.
,, 6182	,,	A. Watt	1-4 to 31-5-04.
,, 5287	Lance Corporal	C. Munro	1-4 to 31-5-04.

INVALID.

Passed Invaliding Board at Poona.
No. 6936 Private A. Wilson, "A" Company.

"C" COMPANY PRIZE STATEMENT (MUSKETRY).

Best shots of Corporals and Privates, Part I., Table B.

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 7501	Corporal	J. McKinley		12	0	0
,, 8171	Private	J. Bell		10	0	0
,, 6533	Lance Corporal	A. Mathieson		9	0	0
,, 5229	Private	W. Saunders		8	0	0
,, 7515	,,	J. Wilson		6	0	0
,, 4311	Lance Corporal	A. Wight		5	0	0
,, 6428	Private	R. Carlyle		4	6	0
,, 7169	,,	A. McKinnon		3	8	3

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in aggregate of Nos. 10, 11, 12, and 13, Snap Shooting Parties, Part I., Table B.

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 7501	Corporal	J. McKinley		6	13	0
,, 7515	Private	J. Wilson		5	8	0
,, 6533	Lance Corporal	A. Mathieson		5	8	0

Best shots of Sergeants :—

			Rs.	a.	p.
No. 3885	Sergeant	E. Mahoney	8	14	6

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in Nos. 14, 15, and 16 Practices Part II., Table B. (Snap Shooting):—

					Rs.	a.	p
No. 7501	Corporal	J. McKinley	-	-	7	14	0
,, 7515	Private	J. Wilson	-	-	7	14	0
,, 4906	,,	T. Craig	-	-	5	14	0
,, 6647	,,	J. Adams	-	-	5	14	0
,, 5620	Corporal	F. Ellis	-	-	4	10	0
,, 7624	Private	R Purie	-	-	3	8	0

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Best Section in No. 17 Practice, Part II., Table B. (Skirmishing).

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 7501	Corporal	J. McKinley	-	1	6	0
,, 6533	Lance Corporal	A. Mathieson	-	1	6	0
,, 4311	,,	A. Wight	-	1	6	0
,, 4942	Private	J. Brodie	-	1	6	0
,, 6647	,,	J. Adams	-	1	6	0
,, 8171	,,	J. Bell	-	1	6	0
,, 4439	,,	J. Elder	-	1	6	0
,, 6524	,,	A. McCaskill	-	1	6	0
,, 7431	,,	A. Mather	-	1	6	0
,, 7890	,,	J. McInnes	-	1	6	0
,, 4704	,,	J. Smith	-	1	6	0
,, 5229	,,	W. Saunders	-	1	6	0
,, 5402	,,	J. Watson	-	1	5	0

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in No. 19 Practice, Part II., Table B.

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 4311	Lance Corporal	A. Wight	-	6	0	0
,, 5229	Private	W. Saunders	-	4	5	0
,, 8171	,,	J. Bell	-	4	0	0
,, 6875	,,	J. Donaldson	-	3	8	0

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in the aggregate of Nos. 2, 3, 7, and 9 Practices, (Time Practice) Selected by Company Officers :—

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 7501	Corporal	J. McKinley	-	5	7	0
,, 5620	,,	F. Ellis	-	4	6	0
,, 4707	Private	J. Smith	-	3	8	0
,, 8171	,,	J. Bell	-	3	6	0
,, 5229	,,	W. Saunders	-	1	2	0

"B" Company Prize Statement (Musketry).

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in Part I., Table B:—

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 8137	Private	R. English	-	9	0	0
,, 5474	,,	J. Scott	-	8	0	0
,, 4981	,,	P. Malone	-	6	0	0
,, 4595	,,	J. Dolan	-	6	0	0
,, 7449	,,	C. Hunter	-	5	0	0
,, 7960	,,	V. G. McKenzie	-	5	0	0
,, 6295	Corporal	W. Alder	-	4	0	0
,, 8031	Private	J. Hughes	-	4	0	0
,, 6684	,,	J. Smith	-	2	5	9

Best shot of Sergeants :—

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 4644	Colour Sergeant	D. Ritchie	-	7	9	6

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in aggregate of Nos. 10,11,12, & 13 Practices (Snap Shooting) Part II., Table B.

				Rs.	a.	p
No. 7960	Private	V. G. McKenzie	-	5	1	0
,, 7449	,,	C. Hunter	-	5	1	0
,, 8149	,,	G. Hall	-	5	1	0

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in aggregate of Nos. 14, 15, and 16 Part II., Table B. (Snap Shooting):—

				Rs.	a.	p
No. 6461	Corporal	G. Shanks	-	6	0	0
,, 7422	Lance Corporal	R. Swan	-	5	0	0
,, 8195	Drummer	J. Laird	-	4	0	0
,, 7035	Private	J. McGregor	-	4	0	0
,, 7192	Lance Corporal	C. Campbell	-	3	0	0
,, 4435	Private	W. Robinson	-	3	0	0
,, 7449	,,	C. Hunter	-	3	0	0
,, 7750	,,	J. Flockhart	-	2	6	0

Best Section in No. 17 Practice, Part II., Table B. (Skirmishing.)

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 2425	Lance Sergeant	A. McKinnes	-	1	1	0
,, 5550	Corporal	F. Risdon	-	1	1	0
,, 7830	Private	W. Cook	-	1	1	0
,, 8195	,,	J. Laird	-	1	0	0
,, 7378	,,	M. Laird	-	1	0	0
,, 5474	,,	J. Scott	-	1	0	0
,, 7506	,,	A. Ballantyne	-	1	0	0
No. 7900	Private	V. G. Kenzie	-	1	0	0
,, 5182	,,	T. Morrison	-	1	0	0
,, 5504	,,	G. Stevenson	-	1	0	0
,, 7200	,,	D. Johnston	-	1	0	0
,, 4793	,,	T. Harrison	-	1	0	0
,, 7897	,,	F. Fletcher	-	1	0	0
,, 7619	,,	D. Watt	-	1	0	0
,, 5448	,,	R. Watt	-	1	0	0

Best shot of Corporals and Privates in No. 18 Practice, Part II., Table B:—

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 5182	Private	T. Morrison	-	3	12	9

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in No. 19 Practice, Part II., Table B:—

				Rs.	a.	p
No. 7758	Private	J. Flockhart	-	5	0	0
,, 7192	Lance Corporal	C. Campbell	-	4	0	0
,, 6295	Corporal	W. Alder	-	3	0	0
,, 7960	Private	V. G. McKenzie	-	2	0	0
,, 8149	Private	G. Hall	-	1	3	0

Best shots of Corporals and Privates in the aggregate of Nos. 2, 3, 7, and 9 Practices (Time Practices) Selected by Company Officers :—

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 4595	Private	J. Dolan	-	5	0	0
,, 8031	,,	J. Hughes	-	4	0	0
,, 5474	,,	J. Scott	-	3	0	0
,, 8137	,,	R. English	-	2	0	0
,, 5182	,,	T. Morrison	-	1	3	0

"D" Company Prize Statement (Musketry).

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 3077	Sergeant	C. Johnstone	-	2	1	0
,, 7807	Private	G. Maxwell	-	13	6	6
,, ,,	,,	,,	-	4	2	0
,, ,,	,,	,,	-	4	2	0
,, ,,	,,	,,	-	4	2	0

"E" Company Prize Statement (Musketry).

				Rs.	a.	p.
No. 6202	Lance Sergeant	J. McInnes	-	2	7	0
,, 4812	,,	P. Mudie	-	4	14	0
,, ,,	,,	,,	-	2	7	0
,, 5725	,,	W. Brown	-	3	0	0

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Births.

At Poona.—On the 12th February 1904, the wife of Sergeant Major H. G. Ditcham, of a son, George Alfred.

At Poona.—On the 15th February 1904, the wife of Bandmaster J. Walsh, of a daughter, Eileen Ethel.

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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following papers :—

"The Lilywhite's Gazette"	-	for January.
"St. George's Gazette"	-	for February.
"The Globe and Laurel"	-	,, ,,
"The Dragon"	-	,, ,,
"The Tiger and the Rose"	-	for February and March.
"The Queen's Own Gazette"	-	,, ,, ,, ,,
"37th Journal"	-	,, ,, ,, ,,
"The Army Corps Journal"	-	,, ,, ,, ,,
"The Indian Volunteer Record and Military News"	-	,, ,, ,, ,,
"The Oak Leaf"	-	,, ,, ,, ,,
"The Die-Hards' Doings"	-	,, January ,, March.
"The Suffolk Gazette"	-	,, March ,, April.
"The Sapper"	-	,, February ,, ,,
"The Military Mail"	-	Weekly.
"The Aldershot News"	-	,,
"The Stirling Sentinel"	-	,,
"The Rothesay Express"	-	,,
"The Oban Times"	-	,,

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2nd BATTALION ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS.

STATEMENT of the "THIN RED LINE" for quarter ending 31st December, 1903.

Date.	EXPENDITURE.	Amount. Rs.	a.	p.	Date.	RECEIPTS.	Amount. Rs.	a.	p.
31-12-03	Manager and Assistant Manager	60	0	0	31-12-03	By Cash Credit from last quarter	630	15	10
„	Commission to Company Agents	21	12	0	„	„ „ per Coys.	219	12	0
„	Postage	19	9	6	„	„ Subscriptions	148	9	0
„	Victor Press, printing October No.	123	8	0	„	„ Advertisements	308	0	0
„	Orphanage Press, printing, November No.	102	15	0	„	„ Bound Volumes	23	0	0
„	Bank Charges	2	15	11	„	„ Interest Allowed	5	9	1
„	Sundries	3	12	0					
„	Fred Miller	13	5	0					
„	Peon	6	0	0					
„	Battalion Orders	3	0	0					
	Balance Cash Credit	979	0	6					
	Cash in Bank Rs. 973 6 0 Cash in Hand „ 5 10 6								
	Total	1,335	13	11		Total	1,335	13	11
	ASSETS.					**LIABILITIES.**			
	Cash in hand	5	10	6					
	Cash in hand—Bank	973	6	0		NIL.			
	Due from Advertisers	233	0	0					
						Balance Credit	1,212	0	6
	Total	1,212	0	6		Total	1,212	0	6

Poona, 31st December, 1903.

R. G. MACLAINE, 2ND LT.,
EDITOR, "Thin Red Line."

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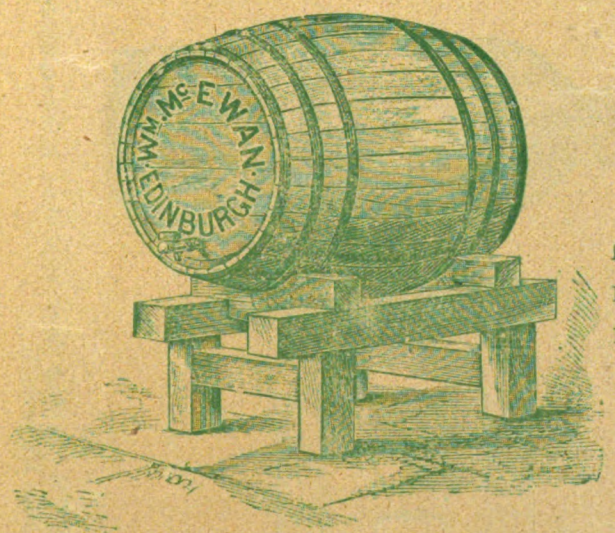
McEWAN'S

The Soldier's Beer

IN WOOD

DIRECT
from the SHIP
to the
MESS.



IN
HOGSHEADS OF 54 GALLONS.
BARRELS OF 36 DO.
KILDERKINS OF 18 DO.

IN
HOGSHEADS OF 54 GALLONS
BARRELS OF 36 DO.
KILDERKINS OF 18 DO

SPECIAL TERMS

Quoted on application to the Sole Agents in India.

CUTLER, PALMER & CO.

The Beer can be supplied from any of their Houses of

Bombay, Calcutta, Lahore or Madras.

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Rs. 31-8 PER DOZEN.

NOTHING SUCCEEDS SO WELL AS **SUCCESS.**

Rs. 31-8 PER DOZEN.

INVALID'S PORT.

THIS PARTICULAR WINE is as free from alcohol as it is possible for Port to be to retain the natural characteristics of a delicate and suitable wine for Invalids.

Professor CASSAL has analysed our Invalid's Wine, and his certificate of purity is attached to every bottle we ship. Our Wine has fraudulent imitations, we therefore ask those who order this particular Wine of ours to see that the bottles bear the Professor's name in addition to our own.

CUTLER, PALMER & CO., BOMBAY,

LONDON, INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, ETC.

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